

31 March 2023

Tēnā koe

On 6 March 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Good Afternoon, I hope you had a great weekend? I am just currently doing some research on behalf of a start up in relation to the microcredentials that are on offer to assist people in getting back into/ or starting out in the work place i.e. drivers licence, skills for job seekers etc. I have compiled a list from both local Chambers of Commerce and NZQA, and they have all advised me to contact MSD accordingly. Any assistance you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

On 15 March 2023, the Ministry contacted you to clarify and refine your request. As we did not hear a response from you, the Ministry contacted you again on 23 March 2023 as a reminder that we were seeking clarification and refinement of your request. We have not received your response to date.

Your request for information is very broad, and substantial manual collation would be required to locate and prepare all documents within scope of your request. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

You are welcome to make a new request for official information, but would need you to clearly specify the information you are seeking.

Information on the assistance provided by the Ministry to clients getting into work can be found on the Ministry's website. You may find the links below helpful:

- <u>www.workandincome.govt.nz/providers/health-and-disability-</u> practitioners/assisting-people-into-work.html
- <u>www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/community/employment.html</u>

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

Sarah Quigan

Manager

Official Information Team