



10 December 2024

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 11 October 2024, requesting information about the Housing Subsidy Value for Money Review and related funding information.

On 5 December 2025, the Ministry contacted you regarding the extended timeframe for the response to your request. Again, I apologise for not letting you know at that time.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on each part of your request set out separately below.

#### **1. *Housing Subsidy Value for Money Review***

*All documents, emails, and communications related to the Housing Subsidy Value for Money review, including but not limited to:*

- *The scope, objectives, and terms of reference for the review.*
- *Updates on the progress of the review.*
- *Any reports, drafts, or interim findings.*
- *Communications between HUD, Treasury, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), and any other relevant agencies or individuals.*

In our view, it would have been necessary under section 14 of the Act to transfer this part of your request to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), because the information you requested is more closely connected with its functions. However, we are aware that you have already made this same request to HUD, and therefore we have not transferred it. We do not hold any additional relevant information that is not already held by HUD.

#### **2. *Funding Allocations (MCA and HAP)***

*A breakdown and details of the regional Multi-Category Appropriation (MCA) budget allocations for the following services:*

- *Work Readiness*
- *Employment Placement Services*
- *Skills for Industry*

*Information regarding the reduction in Homelessness Action Plan (HAP) funding, including the specific amounts reduced and how those reductions were allocated across the following services:*

- *Emergency Housing Navigation and Support Services*
- *Ready to Rent*
- *EH Flexible Funding*

For FY 24/25, the Ministry's regional contracts allocation under the regional Multi-Category Appropriation totalled \$64,011,928 (including industry partnerships funding through the MCA), as follows:

- Work Readiness - \$4,918,141
- Employment Placement Services - \$35,522,712
- Skills for Industry - \$21,666,526 (Including IP's allocation)
- Other - \$1,904,548

Funding under the Homelessness Action Plan expired in June 2024, at which point funding was sought and delivered through Budget 2024, for the continuation of Emergency Housing (EH) support services for a further two years at a total cost of \$83.5 million.

Services include integrated services case managers, housing brokers, contracted navigator services, flexible funding and the ready to rent programmes. Emergency Housing support services help by preventing an initial need of emergency housing, supporting those in emergency housing to access sustainable accommodation, reduce their re-occurring need for emergency housing, and reduce the overall duration people stay in emergency housing.

Allocation of support services for FY 24/25 were made with consideration to the number of households and their duration in emergency housing, including those with children and/or priority cohort groups, geographical distance, place-based initiatives, public housing supply and current pipeline, regional intelligence, utilisation of support services allocated for the previous financial year, and current vs anticipated regional demand. Allocation of funding for year two will be made closer to the time.

The 2024/25 financial year (year one) funding for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 has been allocated:

- Navigators and Support Services - \$13,000,000
- Ready to Rent - \$1,500,000
- Flexible Funding - \$1,450,000

### **3. Funding Decisions**

- *All internal communications and documents related to the decision not to fund information and advisory services for the 2024 fiscal year.*
- *Details on how MSD prioritises or selects organisations for funding under the MCA budget each fiscal year.*

As per the first question in your request, in our view, it would have been necessary under section 14 of the Act to transfer the first part of this question to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), because the information you requested

is more closely connected with its functions. However, we are aware that you have already made this same request to HUD, and therefore we have not transferred it. We do not hold any additional relevant information that is not already held by HUD.

In regard to regional contracts, the Ministry conducts a Purchase Planning process to allocate funding each year for contracts in the following financial year.

Regions receive key information, including regional and national budget allocations, national priorities and strategies, FTE projections, and performance targets. Based on this, each region drafts annual plans and purchasing intentions.

These plans then undergo a central review where feedback and recommendations are provided. Based on this, plans are refined by regions and then approved by central leadership. Once budget is confirmed plans are executed.

Progress against approved plans and performance are monitored throughout the year.

#### **4. Future Funding Opportunities**

- *Information on upcoming MSD tenders or grants aligned with services the Manawatu Tenants' Union provides, particularly related to reallocation of HAP funding.*

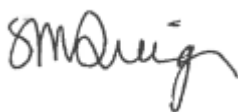
Funding under the Homelessness Action Plan expired in June 2024. Funding for the continuation of Emergency Housing support services for two further years has been delivered through Budget 2024.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**