

11 November 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 11 October 2024, requesting information on Flexi-Wage Self-Employment applications from 2021 – 2024.

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

- The total number of Flexi Wage Subsidy self-employed applications approved for the 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.
- A breakdown by industry of the total number of Flexi Wage Subsidy selfemployed applications approved for the 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.
- The total amount of financial assistance offered through the Flexi Wage Subsidy for 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Please find the requested information in the attached **Appendix One.**

- The total number of Flexi Wage self-employed applications received for the 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- A breakdown by industry of the total number of Flexi Wage self-employed applications denied for the 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.
- A list of reasons for Flexi Wage self-employed applications denied for 12 months ending 30 September 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

I am unable to provide you with this information as it is held in notes on individual case files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. 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.

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.

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 or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

pp.

Magnus O'Neill

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services