



28 November 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 31 October 2024, requesting information about spending on lanyards, branded merchandise, and clothing by the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) for the financial year 2023/24 (FY23/24).

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 below.

Lanyards

The total amount spent on plain lanyards for FY23/24 was \$2,388.49. These lanyards are ordered from OfficeMax.

Plain lanyards can be ordered in packs of ten, five or singles, and they fluctuate in price. As such, I am unable provide the quantity of lanyards purchased for FY23/24. In order to provide you with this information, the Ministry would need to divert personnel from their core duties and allocate extra time to complete this task.

The diversion of these resources would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources. As such, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as it requires substantial collation. 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 requests 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.

Apparel

Please see **Table One** of the below **Appendix**, containing an itemised breakdown of apparel purchased, quantity of each item purchased and total cost per item type for the financial year 2023/24.

Promotional items

Please see **Table Two** of the below **Appendix**, containing an itemised breakdown of promotional items purchased, quantity of each item purchased and total cost per item type for the financial year 2023/24.

Please note the information for apparel and promotional items only include items where the invoices were over \$1000.

Suppliers

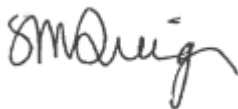
All items shown in **Table One** and **Table Two** were ordered from Blue Star Group (NZ) Limited.

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 regarding spending on lanyards, branded merchandise and clothing, 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

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Appendix

Table One: Itemised breakdown of apparel purchased, quantity of each item purchased and total cost per item type for the financial year 2023/24.

Apparel – for staff use in their roles			
Item	Quantity	Cost (\$)	Intended use
MSD/Work and Income apparel	25	\$2,214.55	Clothing for staff to wear at events so they are easily identifiable. 18 Jackets, 7 polo shirts.
Limited Services Volunteer (LSV) apparel	55	\$3,298.46	Clothing for LSV staff to wear at camp, so they can actively participate and are easily identifiable to trainees. 11 jackets, 15 polo shirts, 2 caps, 7 vests, 3 hoodies, 3 warm-up jackets, 13 t-shirts, 1 trackpants.
Jobs and Skills Hub apparel	213	\$15,772.98	Clothing for Jobs and Skills Hubs staff to wear at events so they are easily identifiable and meet H&S requirements. 29 jackets, 127 polo shirts, 31 high-vis jackets, 26 high-vis vests.
Youth Service apparel	19	\$2,384.52	Clothing for staff to wear at events so they are easily identifiable. 9 jackets, 10 polo shirts.
E Tu Whānau (ETW) Bucket Hats	500	\$4,545	To support and engage with rangatahi and tamariki audiences. For use at events specifically designed for them.

Table Two: Itemised breakdown of promotional items purchased, quantity of each item purchased and total cost per item type for the financial year 2023/24.

Promotional items (given to stakeholders/public etc)			
Item	Quantity	Cost (\$)	Intended use
Youth Service drink bottle	400	\$3,370.80	To distribute at seminars, expos, events, meetings.
Mana in Mahi Pen	3,500	\$5,295.74	To distribute at seminars, expos, events, meetings.
Jobs and Skills Hubs pen	2,000	\$2,484.60	To distribute at seminars, expos, events, meetings.
MSD pen	6,000	\$4,655.60	To distribute at seminars, expos, events, meetings.
Work and Income pen	2,000	\$2,185.07	To distribute at seminars, expos, events, meetings.
Limited Services Volunteer (LSV) Pen	1,250	\$1,616.50	For participants on the LSV programme.
E Tu Whānau (ETW) Trinity Bamboo Pens	1,200	\$1,187	For use at wānanga, hui, and other events organised by ETW, MSD regional staff and community partners.
E Tu Whānau (ETW) Fans	7,000	\$19,183.35	To promote and support the ETW kaupapa at events around New Zealand that are organised/supported by ETW regional staff, our community partners, and hapori – including key national annual occasions e.g. sports tournaments, Te Matatini, Te Rā o te Raukura Festival. Fans are distributed to the public and clients, promoting engagement and connection and extending ETW's reach into homes, communities and workplaces.
ETW Banner – inside use	50	7,453	For use at ETW events, stalls, sports tournaments etc that are organised/supported by ETW kaimahi and community partners. (This was a bulk order to replenish supplies and ensure stock on-hand for future use.)

Office for Seniors World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Ribbons	20,000	\$11,380.40	The ribbons are distributed with other Office for Seniors printed collateral to stakeholders and service providers for use in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (15 June) and other events to raise awareness of elder abuse and where to go to seek help.
Pasefika Proud Fans	1,600	\$4,084.06	To promote Pasefika Proud
Pasefika Proud Pens	1,600	\$2,544.00	To promote Pasefika Proud
Pasefika Proud Workbooks	1,600	\$3,293.89	To promote Pasefika Proud
Pasefika Proud Workbook sleeves	1,600	\$2,411.38	To promote Pasefika Proud
Pasefika Proud Lanyards	1,600	\$7,462.40	To promote Pasefika Proud
Pasefika Proud Lanyard sleeves	1,600	\$1,085.44	To promote Pasefika Proud