



6 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 23 February 2025, requesting updated data on funeral grants.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please refer to **Appendix 1** enclosed with this letter which includes the information you have requested. Please note, as the data provided in the previous response was broken down by financial years, we have followed the same break down for this response.

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 nui

pp. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services



Appendix 1: Number and amount granted of funeral grants between 1 July 2018 to 31 January 2025 by financial year, and region.

Financial Year / Region		Number of Grants	Amount Granted	Mean Amount Granted
2018/2019	Northland	276	\$539,777.52	\$1,955.72
	Auckland Metro	1,398	\$2,734,525.28	\$1,956.03
	Waikato	405	\$761,724.28	\$1,876.17
	Taranaki	219	\$408,482.83	\$1,865.22
	Bay of Plenty	537	\$1,025,640.78	\$1,902.86
	East Coast	237	\$463,508.07	\$1,955.73
	Central	354	\$677,575.92	\$1,903.30
	Wellington	360	\$708,224.15	\$1,967.29
	Nelson	186	\$356,698.57	\$1,897.33
	Canterbury	396	\$734,541.99	\$1,854.90
	Southern	369	\$665,281.28	\$1,807.83
	Other	336	\$618,573.86	\$1,830.10
	Total	5,082	\$9,694,554.53	\$1,908.00
2019/2020	Northland	246	\$482,558.33	\$1,961.62
	Auckland Metro	1,248	\$2,482,621.52	\$1,990.88
	Waikato	351	\$690,998.46	\$1,963.06
	Taranaki	285	\$563,692.08	\$1,977.87
	Bay of Plenty	423	\$824,010.74	\$1,948.02
	East Coast	225	\$435,281.24	\$1,934.58
	Central	321	\$621,830.62	\$1,943.22
	Wellington	294	\$581,267.03	\$1,977.10

	Nelson	168	\$326,893.29	\$1,922.90
	Canterbury	699	\$1,354,937.48	\$1,941.17
	Southern	213	\$398,643.25	\$1,871.56
	Other	525	\$1,015,787.60	\$1,938.53
	Total	4,998	\$9,778,521.64	\$1,956.88
2020/2021	Northland	195	\$390,567.43	\$2,013.23
	Auckland Metro	1,278	\$2,577,419.08	\$2,015.18
	Waikato	333	\$659,352.08	\$1,986.00
	Taranaki	183	\$355,642.78	\$1,954.08
	Bay of Plenty	468	\$933,428.08	\$1,990.25
	East Coast	213	\$434,605.77	\$2,040.40
	Central	327	\$651,825.49	\$1,987.27
	Wellington	249	\$499,843.14	\$2,015.50
	Nelson	288	\$544,920.56	\$1,898.68
	Canterbury	495	\$971,783.76	\$1,963.20
	Southern	156	\$315,116.31	\$1,994.41
	Other	537	\$1,061,214.95	\$1,976.19
	Total	4,722	\$9,395,719.43	\$1,989.78
2021/2022	Northland	174	\$359,289.69	\$2,053.08
	Auckland Metro	1,101	\$2,272,943.59	\$2,066.31
	Waikato	276	\$570,529.98	\$2,052.27
	Taranaki	222	\$448,655.97	\$2,039.35
	Bay of Plenty	456	\$932,320.83	\$2,040.09
	East Coast	222	\$454,853.24	\$2,067.51
	Central	336	\$681,379.73	\$2,033.97
	Wellington	225	\$456,286.49	\$2,036.99
	Nelson	141	\$282,338.99	\$2,002.40
	Canterbury	426	\$852,014.11	\$2,009.47
	Southern	183	\$373,278.94	\$2,028.69

	Other	954	\$1,917,942.44	\$2,012.53
	Total	4,710	\$9,601,834.00	\$2,038.17
2022/2023	Northland	231	\$523,843.33	\$2,257.95
	Auckland Metro	1,125	\$2,492,055.56	\$2,213.19
	Waikato	363	\$780,658.49	\$2,162.49
	Taranaki	267	\$571,786.70	\$2,125.60
	Bay of Plenty	729	\$1,623,240.09	\$2,223.62
	East Coast	201	\$451,374.24	\$2,234.53
	Central	261	\$571,664.12	\$2,173.63
	Wellington	237	\$522,529.61	\$2,204.77
	Nelson	165	\$352,828.55	\$2,138.35
	Canterbury	384	\$813,331.78	\$2,118.05
	Southern	144	\$311,007.25	\$2,144.88
	Other	1,128	\$2,365,470.24	\$2,093.34
	Total	5,244	\$11,379,789.96	\$2,170.06
2023/2024	Northland	255	\$600,139.65	\$2,344.30
	Auckland Metro	1,308	\$3,036,798.61	\$2,321.71
	Waikato	387	\$887,769.70	\$2,305.90
	Taranaki	159	\$358,563.76	\$2,255.12
	Bay of Plenty	498	\$1,151,146.54	\$2,320.86
	East Coast	213	\$499,036.36	\$2,342.89
	Central	144	\$326,018.59	\$2,295.91
	Wellington	165	\$380,864.05	\$2,308.27
	Nelson	192	\$421,079.84	\$2,204.61
	Canterbury	504	\$1,123,494.44	\$2,220.34
	Southern	153	\$328,801.42	\$2,149.03
	Other	954	\$2,144,532.24	\$2,247.94
	Total	4,929	\$11,258,245.20	\$2,284.55
2024/2025 (partial year)	Northland	102	\$247,694.15	\$2,452.42

Auckland Metro	813	\$1,973,562.47	\$2,430.50
Waikato	210	\$494,740.13	\$2,355.91
Taranaki	90	\$209,037.13	\$2,322.63
Bay of Plenty	300	\$716,188.78	\$2,387.30
East Coast	159	\$393,577.83	\$2,491.00
Central	129	\$314,483.71	\$2,400.64
Wellington	186	\$453,347.03	\$2,424.32
Nelson	150	\$349,696.15	\$2,346.95
Canterbury	249	\$562,265.51	\$2,249.06
Southern	102	\$231,752.73	\$2,272.09
Other	726	\$1,669,607.97	\$2,306.09
Total	3,213	\$7,615,953.59	\$2,369.62

Notes:

- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.
- Amount granted is not necessarily the amount spent.
- The funeral grant helps with actual and reasonable funeral costs and is not intended to cover the total cost of the funeral. There is a maximum amount that can be paid
- Region is based on the recommending staff member at the time of grant.
- The region 'Other' represents those service centres that do not represent a geographic location such as call centres and processing unit.
- The Ministry of Social Development's financial year commences on the 1st of July and ends at the 30th of June.
- Financial year 2024/2025 covers 1 July 2024 to 31 January 2025 only.