

7 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2025, requesting information about Enable New Zealand Ltd.

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

• Can you please confirm if Enable NZ Ltd continues to act in a NASC capacity, and if so, how many people remain/sit on their books and therefore are not receiving an EGL budget under Mana Whaikaha. Can you also please advise how many people sit on Mana Whaikaha books.

Within most of Disability Support Services (DSS), Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) organisations are responsible for determining whether people are eligible for disability support funding, assessing people's needs, allocating and administering funding, and managing the overall budget they have been allocated.

Within the MidCentral region, however, most NASC roles have transferred to the Mana Whaikaha team. The roles of the Mana Whaikaha team include allocating funding for people who are seeking support for the first time, or where changes are required to the support a person has previously been allocated. The funding allocation approach used by Mana Whaikaha is significantly different to the one used by NASCs.

Enable NZ's only NASC role is administering funding for people who were allocated support prior to the establishment of Mana Whaikaha in 2018, and who have not had that allocation changed. Once a person's funding allocation is changed, responsibility for the ongoing administration shifts to Mana Whaikaha. This is contributing to a gradual reduction in the number of people whose support is administered by Enable NZ.

As at 11 February 2025:

- 411 people are supported by the Enable NZ team,
- 1843 people are receiving funded support through Mana Whaikaha,
- 3039 people are engaged with Mana Whaikaha, including the number of people supported by Enable NZ and those not receiving funding.

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 Enable NZ, 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. 8Mdrug

Anna Graham

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services