



12 March 2025

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

On 17 February 2025, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment transferred your request for official information, dated 10 February 2025, to the Ministry of Social Development to respond to. You requested for information relating to funeral grants.

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. Can you please provide an annual cost per year for the last 10 years that has been provided (approved) for Funeral Grants.*
- 2. Can you provide a percentage of approvals for such - based on ethnicity - for the previous 10 years.*

Please refer to the attached **Appendix** which contains two tables in response to these parts of your request.

- 3. Please provide a break-down of what these (funeral) grants were allocated to. (ie travel food etc)*

I am refusing your request for this information under section 18(f) of the Act as it is held in individual client files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would need to manually review these files in order to respond to your request. 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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request regarding Funeral Grants, 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

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Graham', written over a horizontal line.

Anna Graham  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**