



17 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your emails on 17 February 2025 and 21 February 2025 that contained, follow up questions on the Ministry of Social Development's (the Ministry's) 5 February 2025 response to your prior request for our update of the McGuinness Institute publication, *2024 GDS Index*.

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

17 February 2025 request

On 17 February 2025, you asked two questions.

1. Employment Investment 2024 –

Is the duration of this strategy 2024–2025 (one year) as indicated by the title, OR

is the duration of this strategy 2024–2030 (six years) as indicated by the 'Target'?

Note: If the strategy duration is only one year in length, we will not consider it a GDS and will remove it from our GDS Index.

The answer to question 1 is that the Employment Investment Strategy is one year in duration and therefore can be removed from the Index.

2. [GDS23-18] Social Sector Commissioning 2022-2028 Action Plan

In their OIA response, Oranga Tamariki stated that MSD was the lead agency for the GDS. Currently, this GDS is considered jointly held by both departments.

Should this strategy be treated as:

- i. Jointly held between Oranga Tamariki and MSD, or*
- ii. Solely held by MSD as the lead agency?*

In our response to you of 5 February 2025, we provided our feedback to your spreadsheet. I reattach this as you'll see in the first tab, the Ministry is

responsible for the Social Sector Commissioning 2022-2028 Action Plan. The Ministry is the lead agency.

21 February 2025 request

On 21 February 2025, you asked two further questions:

3. *A response from the Ministry of Health state that [GDS19–19] [Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy](#) was transferred to MSD in October 2024. Can you clarify whether Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy is:*
 - *Hosted by MSD, or*
 - *No longer operational and should be archived (if archived, please let us know when)?*
4. *If the answer to Question 1 is yes [as in (a)], is the strategy:*
 - *hosted by MSD only, or**jointly held (in which case please provide the name of the other department/s that host this strategy)?*

The *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services* strategy was no longer operational when the Disability Support Services functions were transferred to the Ministry in October 2024. This Strategy ended in 2020 and should be archived.

The *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy*: It focussed on providing disabled people with choices, control, and flexibility around where and how they live. It supported the direction of a transforming disability support system, and the Government's ongoing commitment to the Enabling Good Lives principles. The *My Home, My Choice Strategy*, driven by the Ministry of Disabled People (Whaikaha) can be regarded as one of the successor programmes coming from the *Where I Live; How I Live strategy*.

There has been a commitment to the principles of the *My Home, My Choice Strategy* (led by Whaikaha), and these are still supported by the Enabling Good Lives approach, with the transfer of the Disability Support Services (DSS) operational activities to the Ministry. While DSS is not explicitly driving a *My Home My Choice* strategy, the principles remain very important to the work of DSS, and there are other parallel programmes such as '*Choice in Community Living*' which DSS continues to support. There is currently wide sector consultation on the future of key DSS settings, and this will inform any future work in this area.

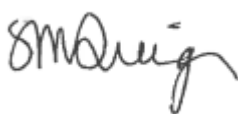
In summary, there are numerous programmes that have continued to be developed that align with the principles of Enabling Good Lives, but there is no over-arching My Home My Choice Strategy, currently.

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