

19 November 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 7 October 2025, requesting information about the process followed when granting funding to MySkill.

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.

- *Please indicate the relevant Vote Budget Estimate code against which item that has been reported;*

The MySkill investment is funded through the Improving Employment Outcomes category of the Ministry's Improved Employment and Social Outcomes MCA (Multi-Category Appropriation).

- *Please confirm the checks undertaken to confirm market gap/need, assess market presence of existing course and avoid duplication in this field;*

The Ministry has a templated approach to procurement and business cases to evaluate need, capture market conditions, align industry and job seeker needs and documents risks. This is supported by a purchase planning process that is coordinated nationally, to align with government priorities.

Through this process, we confirmed ongoing need for entry level healthcare workers across the sector and interest in the sector from MSD clients, and in MySkill, we aligned with the training arm of an employer to meet demand. We co-designed a process that meets clients where they are in terms of learning, upskilling and transition into work.

With Skills for Industry Employer Programmes, the Ministry contracts directly with employers to ensure suitable people are recruited trained and employed.

This process also includes the Ministry conducting its due diligence to ensure MySkill has both the capability and capacity to deliver its services. For MySkill, this included but was not limited to a review of health and safety policies, criminal convictions checks and a review of financial statements.

Once a business case is completed and signed, a contract is then drafted and issued to a provider.

- *As the grant exceeds \$1 million, please provide the link and details associated with the contestable tender process for this service; and*

A contestable process is not required for the MySkill Programme because it is an educational service and a social welfare service being delivered to clients and meets the requirement of an opt out of Government Procurement rules under Rule 12.3k. The current opt-out applies from 1 July 2025 for a maximum term of 36 months, with optional renewals at 12 and 24 months. For clarity, the programme is not funded by a grant, rather through an outcome agreement.

- *Please explain and confirm government policy approach regarding private ownership of IP for resources developed via taxpayer funding*

Our contracts are subject to the Government Procurement Framework Terms and Conditions which can be found here (the relevant sections are section 10 to section 10.5): www.procurement.govt.nz/assets/procurement-property/documents/templates/framework-terms-conditions.pdf

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