



23 September 2025

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 26 August 2025, requesting information about Transition to Work grants (TTW) under the work and readiness program.

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.

*Under the OIA, please provide, for each of the last five completed financial years (and year-to-date 2025/26 if available) for Transition to Work grants (TTW) under the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Programme:*

1. *Counts of grants approved; total and median amount approved; by:*
  - a. *Type of cost (e.g., job placement costs, job search costs, bridging finance – benefit recipient, bridging finance – other, relocation, childcare under Clause 9, and any other TTW sub-types you hold).*
  - b. *Sex (or gender, as captured), age group, ethnicity (standard Stats NZ groupings), region/service centre, and main benefit at time of grant.*
  - c. *Occupation/profession of the job (ANZSCO code or free-text mapped to ANZSCO if held).*

Please see the **Appendix** attached, detailing six tables that outline the number of Transition to Work grants from 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2025 broken down by median, total amount of grants by financial year, type of cost, age, gender, benefit type, region, type of costs, and Total Response Ethnicity.

The part of this request relating to occupation/profession is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as substantial manual collation would be required to collate this information. If held, this information would only be contained within individual client files, which would each require manual review 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.

2. *The data dictionary/field names and system(s) used (e.g., SWIFTT) for the above extracts.*

Transition to Work grants are managed through the Ministry's Client Management System (CMS) as a hardship application. A new application is lodged within a client's CMS record and all demographic data, including age, gender, benefit type that is shown in the reporting is based on the information already saved to a client's account. No new demographic details are added when a TTW grant is processed.

When an application is being created, staff choose a 'Need Type' from a drop down list of options. For TTW grants, they are:

- Transition to Work Grant (Bridging finance client)
- Transition to Work Grant (Bridging finance non bene)
- Transition to Work Grant (Job Placement costs)
- Transition to Work Grant (Job Search costs)

Any further detail is recorded as free text.

*3. Any quality notes or caveats on the completeness/consistency of TTW category and demographic fields.*

Caveats have been provided in the **Appendix** attached to this letter.

*4. If any part would require substantial collation, please provide any readily-available reports or standard extracts that cover the above (even if partial), and advise the narrowest extract you can supply within the Act's limits.*

*Please supply the data in CSV with a short method note.*

Your request for readily available reports or standard extracts regarding data broken down by occupation/profession of the job (ANZSCO code or free-text mapped to ANZSCO if held) is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this document does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The Ministry cannot provide this information in CSV as it deviates from standard reporting methods and how information is managed.

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, 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

pp.



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