

24 March 2026

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 3 March 2026 to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), requesting data regarding funeral grants for the period 2022 to 2025.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), please find my response below.

Please find the attached spreadsheet marked as **Appendix One** which contains the following tables:

- **Table 1:** Number of funeral grant applications (grants and declines) processed between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2025, by calendar year and region.
- **Table 2:** Number of funeral grants and amount granted between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2025, by calendar year and region.
- **Table 3:** Number of funeral grants processed between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2025, by calendar year, region and age group.
- **Table 4:** Number of funeral grants processed between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2025, by calendar year, region and gender.
- **Table 5:** Number of funeral grants processed between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2025, by calendar year, region and Total Response Ethnicity.

The Ministry is currently unable to provide data from December 2025 onwards, due to system issues. We are currently working through these issues and will provide an update on our website in due course, and you are welcome to get back in touch with us with a further request, should you wish to receive that data, once the issue is resolved.

For the present time, the data for December 2025 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 currently 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.

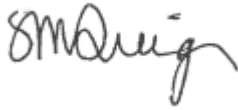
I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

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