

Historical abuse while in state care — settling claims

As part of the Wellbeing Budget the Government is increasing funding for MSD to respond to and settle more claims of abuse in state care, and provide appropriate support to claimants, with a 20 percent reduction in waiting time for redress.

Budget 2019

● **Government is investing \$95.2 million over three years to enable claimants of abuse in state care to have a sense of justice, validation and empowerment.**

- Enable MSD to resolve 1,864 claims of abuse while in the care of Child, Youth and Family (or its predecessors), and to adequately address their concerns without them needing to resort to civil litigation.
- Enable the provision of a faster process with greater support for claimants, and ongoing evaluation and improvement of the service.
- MSD has received claims from people ranging in age from 17 to 85 years. Two thirds are male and approximately 55 percent identify as Māori and 4 percent Pacific. Many of them are income poor and have general health, mental health difficulties or social difficulties.
- Existing funding was insufficient to resolve enough existing and expected future claims. This new funding will enable MSD to process claims more quickly, and reduce the waiting list for claims to be resolved and redress provided where appropriate.

The benefits of this funding include:

- Learning from claimant's experiences to improve the current care system
- Increased contact and improved support to over 3,500 people with claims of abuse in state care
- Wrap-around services provided to 525 people for access to the universal services they need and to address adverse outcomes.
- 20 percent reduction in the average waiting time for a redress offer to be made to a claimant.