



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

Bowen State Building, Bowen Street, PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140 • Telephone: 0-4-916 3300 • Facsimile: 0-4-918 0099

- 2 AUG 2016



On 16 June 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- 1. How much has your organisation spent, for each year, subsidising acupuncture treatment for staff members.*
- 2. Are there any other "alternative" treatments that your organisation subsidises for employees? If so, how much has been spent per year on each? For this question, "alternative treatments" includes, but is not restricted to, chiropractic, osteopathy and homeopathy*

The Ministry is committed to the prevention and management of workplace injury and illness. Managers are actively involved in recovery, rehabilitation and workplace return to work programmes. Wellnz is contracted to help administer and manage this process, this enables the Ministry to successfully self-manage staff workplace injuries and reduce their impact. Wellnz, on behalf of the Ministry funds approved treatments and medical interventions for injured staff which are prescribed under the Accident Compensation Act 2001.

The table below provides the total cost associated to acupuncture, chiropractor and osteopath treatments for the past five years.

I hope you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
Wellington 6143

Yours sincerely

Melissa Gill

General Manager Health Safety and Security, Organisational Solutions

Total amount spent on acupuncture, chiropractor and osteopath costs for the previous five years.

Treatment type	Cost (\$)
Acupuncture	
2011	\$3,165.22
2012	\$1,691.09
2013	\$2,727.03
2014	\$2,286.94
2015	\$2,360.68
2016 (as at 28 June)	\$391.62
Chiropractic	
2011	\$2,174.72
2012	\$968.54
2013	\$2,084.90
2014	\$3,621.38
2015	\$2,694.40
2016 (as at 28 June)	\$155.64
Osteopathy	
2011	\$2,240.89
2012	\$1,198.97
2013	\$2,131.06
2014	\$3,291.69
2015	\$2,136.97
2016 (as at 28 June)	\$0