



4 MAY 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

On 19 February 2018, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information regarding social services funded and provided in Huntly. It was clarified with you that your query pertained to services provided or funded by the Ministry. Your questions are addressed in turn below.

1. *A list of social services currently provided in Huntly.*
2. *Can I get a breakdown as to the cost of each service per year, including staff remuneration?*

Social services

Outlined below is information about the social services based in Huntly which are contracted and funded by the Ministry for the 2017/18 financial year.

Contracted provider	Contracted service	Contracted amount
Waikato Training and Employment Ltd	Mahi Oranga – Civil Works Training and Employment programme for 12 participants	\$74,160
Te Wananga o Aotearoa –	Training for Work for 40 participants	\$196,600
Imagine Kids After School Ltd	before school, after school and holiday programmes	\$15,775
Kiwico Educare Ltd	before school, after school and holiday programmes.	\$12,125
Lakewood Lodge Limited	Holiday programme	\$15,125
Total		\$313,785

Many services that the Ministry contracts are for service provision to a region or area wider than Huntly. The Ministry's systems do not have the ability to apportion funding of services by areas smaller than Territorial Local Authority (TLA). Therefore the Ministry cannot provide information specific to Huntly about these services, as the information is not held in this form. Instead, please find overleaf a table that shows Ministry of Social Development regional level funding apportioned to the Waikato TLA (which includes Huntly).

Ministry of Social Development funding to the Waikato District for the 2017/18 financial year, as at 13 March 2018.

Contract category	Service type	Contracted amount
Contracted to Waikato only	Building Financial Capability Intensive Support Services including supports to remote clients, people with disabilities, and other high needs clients. This service may include total money management.	\$19,940
	Crisis response services for victims of family violence	\$24,185
	Family-Centred Services Fund - Direct services	\$30,000
	Longer-term psychological recovery services for victims of family violence	\$67,256
	One-off youth development initiatives through the Youth Fund involving mentoring, volunteering, and leadership	\$2,430
	Provision of core services for Building Financial Capability	\$171,414
	Provision of information and advisory services, available to the general public, through drop-in centres and to specific target audiences via telephone, face-to-face, or web-based media	\$8,996
Includes Waikato - contract within Midlands	Building Financial Capability Intensive Support Services including supports to remote clients, people with disabilities, and other high needs clients. This service may include total money management	\$8,281
	E Tu Whānau violence prevention grants	\$17,769
	Elder Abuse and Neglect Prevention services	\$33,528
	Family violence integrated safety response services	\$286,195
	Pacific Response - Taking Action grants	\$1,281
	Programmes for self-referred non-mandated perpetrators of family violence	\$20,810
	Sexual violence first response and crisis response services	\$104,915
To enable and facilitate peer-to-peer support for male survivors of sexual abuse	\$23,354	
Includes Waikato - Contract wider than Midlands	Contribution to youth development initiatives involving mentoring, volunteering, and leadership alongside corporate and philanthropic partners	\$85,717
Total		\$906,071

Notes:

- This report contains services that have been contracted to date. Funding in the current year is still subject to contracting and may alter.
- When a contract is targeted to an area larger than the specified area, the amount for the specified area is calculated by apportioning the total contract value by the population of the specified area. In such cases the Ministry is unable to give the exact amount of funding utilised in the specified area.
- The contracted amount is by service purchased rather than by provider.

You will likely be interested to know that The Family Services Directory is a Ministry operated publically accessible directory of service providers across New Zealand. Community organisations opt into the directory and do not need to receive funding from the Ministry to be listed. While the Directory is a great resource for anyone searching for organisations which may be able to assist them with a range of health or social needs it is not exhaustive, particularly due to its opt in nature.

Organisations will appear in searches based on the category and location for service delivery specified by the organisation itself. In terms of Huntly, there are currently 665 organisations which specify that they deliver a service in the Waikato District (Territorial Authority), with 28 of these based in the district. For more information see the following web-link: www.familyservices.govt.nz/directory/searchresultspublic.htm?pageNumber=1&searchRegion=15&cat1=-1&expandCategories=false&searchTerms=&searchByProviderName=false&selectedDistricts=63&pageSize=10&searchCriterion.sortOrder=LOCAL.

Staff remuneration

The Huntly Work and Income Service Centre was temporarily closed in May 2017 after asbestos was found in the ceiling, a new site is due to open later this year. The staff from the Huntly Service Centre have been working out of the Ngaruawahia Community Link and, as a part of a temporary service operating out of the Waahi Whaanui complex in Huntly West. As at the end of March 2018, the Ministry spent \$707,804 on the salary of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff connected to the Huntly site.

Services provided by Work and Income are outlined on the Work and Income website here: www.workandincome.govt.nz. As at the end of March 2018, 1,490 clients on a main benefit were associated with the Huntly site.

The Ministry does not hold information about staff remuneration for contracted providers as this is at the discretion of the provider. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

- 3. Have there been any social services that have closed in the past decade, if so then which service and why.*

The Ministry does not hold information on providers that may have stopped offering services. As such your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

As I mentioned earlier, the Huntly Work and Income Service Centre was temporarily closed in May 2017 after asbestos was found in the ceiling following a maintenance check. The asbestos was contained and a professional air quality test has confirmed the air was safe, so there had been no risk to staff or visitors. However, a new site in Huntly has been found and work is underway to prepare the site for opening later this year.

Work and Income have been providing a full service to Huntly clients from the Ngaruawahia Community Link, as well as a temporary service operating out of the Waahi Whaanui complex in Huntly West where there is availability for Emergency and Maintenance appointments in the morning and a drop off box for forms. Clients can also continue get help online and over the phone.

4. Will there be any new services offered or opening in Huntly in the next five years?

The Ministry's procurement of social services is aligned to the Ministry's Investment Strategy through annual purchase plans. The purchase plan for 2018/19 does not include any new social services for Huntly. The Ministry is in the process of developing a new investment strategy for key social services aimed at preventing and reducing vulnerability and harm for individuals, families/whānau and communities – including those related to family violence. As such your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

The small amount of information the Ministry does hold relates to work in its early stages and is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

5. How is it decided what services to offer a community?

You will see from the enclosed table that the Ministry funds a large range of social services. The Ministry's procurement of social services is determined by Government's priorities, the Ministry's Investment Strategy (which takes into account the needs the Ministry wants to address and the estimated demand for services), and the attributes of the supplier market. In general the Ministry will utilise one of a range of procurement approaches.

The most commonly utilised procurement approaches are regular commercial or competitive tenders (open or closed) and direct purchasing. These approaches generally have a three to five year cycle. Procurement approaches which don't have a regular re-tender cycle are utilised to procure long term client services or to fund all eligible providers within a specified market.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,

- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public shortly. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response regarding social services in Huntly with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding services in Huntly, 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.

Yours sincerely



Marama Edwards
Group General Manager, Community Partnerships and Programmes