



15 November 2021

Tēnā koe

On 16 October 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *information regarding the motivational seminar I was recently invited to attend at the beginning of August.*
- *The information that I am seeking is that regarding the costs involved in having people attend the full seminar as I was invited to, and the number of persons which have participating in this seminar in New Zealand.*

The seminar you were invited to was a free informational event held on 3 August 2021 at the Tauranga Work and Income Service Centre, introducing people to the 'The Change Within' programme. Approximately eight Health Condition, Injury of Disability (HCID) clients attended the event.

'The Change Within' programme is run externally by TS Training for clients who are receiving either the Supported Living Payment or Jobseeker Support. The course offers clients Work Confidence Coaching for three weeks, three full-day online courses delivered across a three-week span, and a 20-week programme aimed at clients re-engaging into sustainable employment.

The 20-week programme covers the following topics:

- Identifying developmental needs, aspirational planning and healthy choices;
- Developing healthy behaviours and goal orientated milestones;
- Improve physical by reducing pressures on existing physical disorders;
- Improve mental health, Improve human connection;
- Resume development, cover letters, job applications, interviewing techniques;
- Consistent guidance and coaching for clients and potential employers; and
- Identifying and engaging appropriate services to enhance each client's pathway to success.

The Ministry may offer support to pay for the cost of the programme. The cost of the programme is based on 24 spaces allocated to the Tauranga region, for clients to participate. It costs \$5,100.00 per person or \$221.00 per client per week of engagement.

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 and any attached documents available to the wider public. 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 with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the motivational seminar you were invited to attend, 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

Bridget Saunders

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**Manager Issues Resolution
Service Delivery**