



23 March 2022

Tēnā koe

On 8 February 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information regarding Crime Scene Cleaners 2010 Limited:

- *How many times this company has been used by the Ministry of Social Development*
- *The total amount of money spent by the Ministry of Social Development*
- *Any invoices from the company to the Ministry of Social Development*
- *The dates and locations the company has been contracted to.*

On 8 March 2022, the Ministry advised you that more time was required to respond to your request, and a decision would be with you no later than 25 March 2022. The reason for this extension was that consultations necessary to make a decision on your request were as such that a proper response to the request could not reasonably be made within the original time limit.

The Ministry does not hold any contracts with Crime Scene Cleaners 2010 Limited, therefore your request for information regarding the number of times the Ministry has contracted them is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as this information does not exist.

However, the Ministry has paid hardship grants directly to Crime Scene Cleaners on behalf of clients who have used their services, and in the spirit of being helpful, we are providing you with information about those payments.

Please see **Table One** overleaf showing the amounts paid in hardship grants to Crime Scene Cleaners on behalf of clients who have used their services, during the quarters ending March 2016 to February 2022.

Table One: The amounts paid in hardship grants to Crime Scene Cleaners on behalf of clients who have used their services, during the quarters ending March 2016 to February 2022.

| Quarter ending | Amounts |
|----------------|------------|
| June 2018 | \$5,280.91 |
| December 2018 | \$1,458.25 |
| September 2020 | \$2,500.00 |
| December 2021 | \$782.00 |

Notes:

- Amount is the amount granted. The total amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.

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'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 Crime Scene Cleaners Limited, 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

Bridget Saunders
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