



17 May 2022

Tēnā koe

On 2 May 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Details related to the expenditure of commissioned research the Ministry of Social Development has awarded to external organisations over the last three years. Specifically, I would like to know how many external commissioned research contracts there have been, who they went to, and how much it cost.*

I refer you to **Appendix One**, enclosed which provides a list of projects contracted to external organisations in financial years 2021/2022, 2020/2021 and 2019/2020.

The list in Appendix One does not include evaluations, of which the Ministry commissions. All of our published evaluation and research work can be found at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/index.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/index.html).

Some of the research contracts mentioned is commissioned through the Children and Families Research Fund which has a specific purpose and process which can be found at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/research/children-families-research/index.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/research/children-families-research/index.html).

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 and attachments 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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Skeates'.

Rachel Skeates-Millar  
**General Manager Research and Evaluation**