



29 November 2022

Tēnā koe

On 13 September 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I am after the number of people that have been funded by, or otherwise supported by MSD through obtaining their graduated drivers licence (Class 1) in the Taupo District in the last 3 years. In particular:

- *The number and age of people supported in obtaining their learners licence, whether successful or not.*
- *The number and age of people supported in obtaining their restricted licence, whether successful or not.*
- *The number and age of people supported in obtaining their full licence, whether successful or not.*
- *The total cost (per year) paid to external organisations to support these people towards obtaining their licences.*

On 3 October 2022, the Ministry emailed you as your request was broad in scope. The Ministry advised that we are only able to provide you with the total amount of driver licence hardship grants for the last 3 years in Taupo District and cannot be broken down by license type. However, as you did not respond to this email, the Ministry will be answering your original request as above.

On 11 October 2022, the Ministry emailed you to advise that we needed more time to prepare a response for you and a decision will be with you no later than 11 November 2022.

On 10 November 2022, the Ministry emailed to advise that we had decided to grant your request in part, namely the information which relates to the overall amount of hardship granted for driver licenses and total amount paid to external organisations to support clients obtain their licenses. However,

we required some additional time to prepare this information for release, and advised you it would be with you no later than 30 November 2022.

The Ministry will now answer each part of your request in turn for clarity.

- The number and age of people supported in obtaining their learners licence, whether successful or not.
- The number and age of people supported in obtaining their restricted licence, whether successful or not.
- The number and age of people supported in obtaining their full licence, whether successful or not.

I am unable to provide you with this information as it is held in notes on individual case files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

However, in the spirit of being helpful, please see **Table One** in the below **Appendix** which outlines the number of hardship grants for Drivers Licence – New for the Taupo District by age group and year for the period January 2019 to 31 October 2022.

- The total cost (per year) paid to external organisations to support these people towards obtaining their licences.

Please see **Table Two and Three** in the below **Appendix** which outlines the total amount paid to external providers to help clients obtain their licences in the Taupo District for period financial year ending 2020 to financial year ending 2022.

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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding license data for Taupo District in the last 3 years, 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
Manager
Issue Resolution
Service Delivery



Appendix

Table One: The number of hardship grants for Drivers Licence - New for Taupo District Territorial Local Authority during the period 1 January 2019 and 31 October 2022 by age group and year.

Age Group	Calendar Year								Total	
	2019		2020		2021		2022 (Up to 31 October 2022)			
	Number of grants	Amount granted	Number of grants	Amount granted	Number of grants	Amount granted	Number of grants	Amount granted	Number of grants	Amount granted
16	3	\$187.80	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$187.80
18-19	6	\$658.60	6	\$823.30	6	\$432.10	3	\$269.60	21	\$2,183.60
20-24	6	\$635.50	18	\$2,107.50	27	\$2,995.80	9	\$1,299.80	63	\$7,038.60
25-29	9	\$1,315.40	15	\$1,771.40	15	\$1,387.80	12	\$1,302.40	51	\$5,777.00
30-34	6	\$618.50	9	\$1,184.60	9	\$1,058.30	6	\$894.50	36	\$3,755.90
35-39	3	\$463.30	6	\$742.80	9	\$937.50	3	\$447.70	24	\$2,591.30
40-44	6	\$646.20	9	\$847.40	3	\$338.20	3	\$66.40	18	\$1,898.20
45-49	3	\$338.20	6	\$661.20	3	\$246.90	0	\$0	12	\$1,246.30
50-54	0	\$0	3	\$109.50	3	\$244.30	3	\$132.00	6	\$485.80
55-59	3	\$93.90	0	\$0	3	\$109.50	3	\$134.80	3	\$338.20
60-64	3	\$66.40	0	\$0	3	\$109.50	0	\$0	3	\$175.90
Total	48	\$5,023.80	72	\$8,247.70	75	\$7,859.90	39	\$4,547.20	234	\$25,678.60

Notes for Table One:

- Amount Granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- Territorial Local Authority (TLA) is based on the clients address as at the date of grant.
- The number of Grants is not the number of individuals. A client can have more than one grant in each time period.
- Age is based on the clients age as at the time of the grant. Because this is a count of grants, the same client can appear more than once across multiple age groups.
- 2022 is a partial year and is from 1 January 2022 to 31 October 2022.

- The table includes the hardship reason Drivers Licence - New only. It does not include the hardship reason Drivers Licence - Renewal which is granted as a separate hardship.

Table Two: Number of Clients Supported to Obtain Drivers Licence from Financial Year 2020, Broken down by Age and Licence Type.

Age	Learner Licences	Restricted Licences	Full Licences
Under 20	18	6	6
20-29yrs	27	42	21
30-39yrs	9	24	18
40-49yrs	9	9	12
50yrs +	S	S	S
Total	63	84	57

Notes for Tables Two:

- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- Random rounding does not round down to zero, a value of one or two will be rounded to three.
- The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.
- In certain circumstances low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified.
- Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed or aggregated.
- Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required.
- Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.

Table Three: Amount Paid to External Providers to Support Clients to Obtain Drivers Licenses in the Taupo District, Broken Down by Provider, Licence Type, and Financial Year.

Provider	Licence Type	Financial Year								
		2020			2021			2022		
		Cost per client	Number of Clients	Total Cost	Cost per client	Number of Clients	Total Cost	Cost per client	Number of Clients	Total Cost
Taupo Employment Services	Learners	\$93.90	S	\$469.50	\$93.90	15	\$1,314.60	\$350.00	9	\$3,150.00
	Restricted	\$350.00	6	\$2,100.00	\$350.00	15	\$5,250.00	\$350.00	18	\$5,950.00
	Full	\$400.00	S	\$1,600.00	\$400.00	9	\$4,000.00	\$350.00	18	\$6,300.00
Moving Mountains	Learners	\$300.00	0	\$0.00	\$300.00	6	\$2,100.00	\$300.00	15	\$4,500.00
	Restricted	\$550.00	0	\$0.00	\$550.00	12	\$7,700.00	\$550.00	30	\$17,050.00
	Full	\$550.00	0	\$0.00	\$550.00	12	\$5,500.00	\$550.00	21	\$10,450.00
EmployNZ	Learners	\$93.90	S	\$281.70	\$93.90	S	\$93.90	\$94.00	0	\$0.00
	Restricted	\$350.00	S	\$350.00	\$350.00	S	\$350.00	\$350.00	0	\$0.00
	Full	\$400.00	S	\$800.00	\$400.00	0	\$0.00	\$400.00	0	\$0.00
EmployNZ Youth Services	Learners	\$103.40	0	\$0.00	\$103.40	S	\$413.60	\$103.40	S	\$206.80
	Restricted	\$145.35	0	\$0.00	\$145.35	0	\$0.00	\$145.35	0	\$0.00
Total			21	\$5,601.20		75	\$26,722.10		111	\$47,606.80

Notes for Tables Two and Three:

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