

13 September 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 16 August 2024, requesting information on disability providers with existing contracts with the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), as of August 2024. I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

In the interests of clarity, I have grouped parts of your request together. Please find my decision on your request below.

- 1. Can you please provide a list of disability providers with existing contracts with the Ministry of Social Development as of August 2024?
- 2. Can you please provide the date these contracts were last renewed?
- 3. Can you also provide the date of issue and expiry for the previous contract period?

The Ministry contracts with over 140 partners to provide a variety of services to around 16,000 disabled people annually, at a cost of approximately \$140 million per year. Please refer to the attached **Appendix** which provides a list of Ministry service providers with existing disability contracts as of 26 August 2024.

It should be noted that many disability service contracts are complex and often require rework if a mistake is made, updates to reflect client movements, or changes in circumstances for providers. The Ministry does not keep record of the date the contracts are issued to the providers for signing. However, the date the contract was signed by the provider signatory is recorded. This is in Colum D of the **Appendix.** Note: this is the date the most recent variation was signed and not necessarily the date of extension.

Where the Ministry is contracting with individual(s) their name(s) have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons and have been replaced with "Sole Trader". The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

4. Also, can you please note the number of providers, if any, that are still waiting for contracts to be renewed.

There are currently ten Disability Service contracts that are in the contracting process.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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

pp. 8Moring

Magnus O'Neill

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services