



8 May 2024

Tēnā koe J Bythell

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 6 April 2024, requesting information about the Ministry of Social Development's (the Ministry's) financial appropriation for this financial year, and anticipated costs for redundancies.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision to each part of your request set out below.

- 1. Is your department at risk of overspending its financial appropriation this year?*

Based on current forecast, and subject to Budget 2024 decisions, the Ministry is not at risk of overspending its financial appropriation this year. Please note that the Ministry's Leadership Team monitors the budget, forecast, actual spend and appropriation monthly, and with an additional quarterly review to make sure resources are prioritised appropriately.

- 2. Have you set aside an allowance in this financial year for redundancies or other costs of restructuring? If so, how much is that allowance? If not, do you anticipate any costs for these in this financial year?*

When setting the Ministry's budget for the 2023/24 year no allowance was provided for redundancy costs. The Ministry is currently in the middle of a change process, including voluntary redundancies, which is ongoing. Once we have completed this process the full cost of any redundancies will be known including the total cost within the 2023/24 year. Please see our recent public statement: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2024/voluntary-redundancies-confirmed.html

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

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services