

Reference: 20230443

17 October 2023



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 19 September 2023. You requested (numbered for ease of response):

I am seeking information regarding any information regarding funds being set aside for claims of abuse in state care.

The information I am seeking would include:

- 1. Budget set asides*
- 2. Projections for state abuse claims*
- 3. Correspondence, notes, minutes of meetings, concerning state abuse claims*
- 4. Correspondence, notes, minutes of meetings, concerning redress claims by survivors of abuse at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Unit.*

The information would encompass from 2020 to current day.

The information I am seeking is in our role as advocates for state abuse survivors in mental health.

On 3 October 2023, your request was transferred to the following agencies:

- Ministry of Education (parts 1 to 3 only)
- Ministry of Social Development (parts 1 to 3 only)
- Department of Corrections
- Oranga Tamariki
- Ministry of Health
- The Crown Response Unit - Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

Part 1

In so far as the Treasury holds information related to your request, it can be found in our Budget documents and the Estimates of Appropriations for the Government of New Zealand for each respective financial year. This information is available on the Treasury and Budget websites, at the following links:

- <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/budgets>
- <https://budget.govt.nz/budget/2023/estimates/index.htm>

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<https://treasury.govt.nz>

You can find the information in these documents by searching 'Abuse in Care' or 'Historic Claims Resolution' for the following agencies:

- The Ministry of Social Development (Vote Social Development)
- Oranga Tamariki (Vote Oranga Tamariki)
- The Department of Corrections (Vote Corrections)
- The Ministry of Health (Vote Health)
- NZ Police (Vote Police)
- Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People (Vote Social Development)

Additionally, the Department of Internal Affairs, the Ministry for Arts, Culture and Heritage, and Land Information New Zealand received discrete funding to respond to the recommendations of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care. These are generally described under the overall term, "Abuse in Care," and can be found in relevant Estimates and Budget 2023 documents.

Accordingly, I have refused part 1 of your request under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available.

Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the Official Information Act, on the grounds described in the documents.

Parts 2 to 4

The Treasury does not hold information related to parts 2, 3 and 4 of your request. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information does not exist.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Allie Jarratt
Acting Manager, Welfare and Oranga Tamariki team