



03 NOV 2016



Dear

On 7 October 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *How much money is directed at programmes aimed at supporting children of prisoners and parenting programmes for prisoners?*

The Ministry contracts with a number of providers to provide a wraparound suite of services to assist the children and families of prisoners and the prisoners themselves while in prison. The services that are provided include social work, rehabilitation and counselling. The Ministry spent \$240,511 in 2015/16 and allocated \$231,396 in the 2016/17 financial year for the contracted services noted above. Funding in the current financial year is subject to change and may alter.

This does not represent all the support available to families of prisoners. Children and families of prisoners are also able to access the benefits, programmes and services available to other children and families. Details of these can be found on the Ministry of Social Development's website: <http://www.msd.govt.nz/>. The Ministry does not record the amount of this general funding that would be accessed by families of prisoners.

Children and families of prisoners will also receive support from other government agencies. You will need to contact those agencies directly to request details of that support.

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 after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development'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.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maree Roberts".

Maree Roberts
Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Community Investment