

# Ensuring the Right Support at the Right Time – Resourcing the Public Service

As part of the COVID-19 Budget package we are committed to ensuring agencies can deliver for New Zealanders.

## COVID-19 Budget Package 2020

**Responding and recovering from COVID-19 requires extra capacity to support the increased number of New Zealanders who will need employment and financial help during the next financial year.**

**Increases in employment and financial services and the Ministry of Social Development's (MSD) employment offering is critical to supporting people quickly into employment opportunities to reduce reliance on Government financial support.**

- MSD will build on existing services and take new, more proactive and innovative approaches in its employment services delivery. This includes enhanced 'less intensive' services to support those who can re-engage quickly with the labour market so that they do not need to enter the benefit system for the longer term.
- This initiative will fund an additional 807 full-time staff from July 2020:
  - 790 staff are for employment services and income support, such as benefits and grants for clients.
- This increased capacity will focus on expanding and adjusting MSD's employment resourcing to support more people requiring employment assistance. It will also expand MSD's service delivery workforce to support more people forecasted to require financial assistance in the next 12-24 months.
- This increase in full-time staff is related to the current demand from clients.

### Costs (operating) \$m

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	TOTAL
110.0	80.0	40.0	20.0	<b>250.0</b>