



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

22 DEC 2020

Dear

On 27 November 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

1. *Could you provide the contact details of the person handling the LinkedIn Learning resource please?*
2. *I would like to know if this resource has been made available to all MSD registered jobseekers and has it been done so at MSD's expense?*
3. *How long has MSD had access to this resource and how long has it been made available?*
4. *Who else has this resource been made available to?*
5. *Are MSD registered job seekers able to request extensions beyond the initial 3-month period?*

COVID-19 put pressure on many New Zealanders and there has been significant job losses. While the benefit system is there for people who need it, the Ministry is also trying to prevent people coming onto a benefit in the first place. Courses like the LinkedIn Learning offer one way in which jobseekers can upskill and prepare for new jobs. The Ministry knows that many New Zealanders are having to reimagine their employment futures, and this resource is just one way to help prepare people for employment.

For the sake of clarity, I will address each question in turn.

1. *Could you provide the contact details of the person handling the LinkedIn Learning resource please?*

The Ministry's Industry Partnership team is responsible for the LinkedIn Learning resource. You can contact their team at the following email address: industrypartnerships@msd.govt.nz.

2. *I would like to know if this resource has been made available to all MSD registered jobseekers and has it been done so at MSD's expense?*

The LinkedIn Learning resource is free for all Ministry clients who are receiving a jobseeker support benefit. In August 2020, the Ministry purchased 6,999 LinkedIn Learner Licenses from LinkedIn at a flat rate of \$12.15 NZD per license.

When a person has secured employment and no longer needs access to this platform, 2,000 licenses can then be re-assigned to other users, extending the reach of the initiative.

Page 1 of 3

3. How long has MSD had access to this resource and how long has it been made available?

As mentioned above, the Ministry purchased the LinkedIn Learner Licenses from LinkedIn in August 2020 as part of a contract that is due to end on 30 June 2021.

4. Who else has this resource been made available to?

LinkedIn Learning is available to all jobseekers in New Zealand and has been promoted on digi-boards in Connected centres, through bulk email campaigns, which were sent out to clients in the Connected catchment zones, and through Social media posts on LinkedIn and Facebook.

The Connected website is a central place for information from the New Zealand Government, relating to employment education and training. There are 35 physical Connected centres across New Zealand. For more information go to: www.connected.govt.nz

5. Are MSD registered job seekers able to request extensions beyond the initial 3-month period?

Yes, clients can use LinkedIn Learning until they are placed in work. As mentioned previously, when a client has secured employment and no longer needs access to the platform, 2,000 licences can then be reassigned to other users further extending the reach of the initiative.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

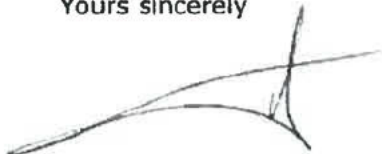
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public. 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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the LinkedIn Learning resource, 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Nicolle', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Amanda Nicolle
Director
Industry Partnerships