

3 June 2025

Tēnā koe

### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 7 May 2025 requesting information about Course-related costs, Training Incentive Allowance and Student Loan. You also requested information about dismissal of Ministry staff.

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

- In the last 12 months up to and including today's date, how many people have been declined Course Participation Costs, Training Incentive Allowance & Student Loan consecutively and what is the ratio of declines between male and female and the reasons for those declines.*

Please refer to Tables 1-5 provided in the attached **Appendix** which provides the information you have requested.

- How many people working within the Ministry of Social Development have been disciplined and sacked due to their decision making and of those people, how many were female as opposed to male?*

Please refer to the table below which provides the total number of staff dismissed in the period 7 May 2024 – 7 May 2025, broken down by gender, as below.

Female	Male	Other	Total
8	2	1	11

#### Notes:

- Contractors have been included in the total number in this instance.
- Note that the Ministry is unable to accurately address whether the dismissals are a result of decision making as all instances of serious misconduct could be attributed to decision making.
- What is the current Ministers and the CEO's understanding of their role in society and the Ministry?*

I note there is no obligation on an agency to form an opinion or create new information in order to respond to a request. In accordance with this advice from

the Office of the Ombudsman, the agency is not required to answer this part of your request as it does not specifically qualify as a request for official information.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Anna Graham  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**