



16 June 2025

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 10 April 2025 requesting information about the Ministry of Social Development's (the Ministry's) Microsoft expenditure.

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. Some questions are grouped together for clarity.

- *The total amount spent by your department on Microsoft Office licences or subscriptions for the most recent financial year (1 July to 30 June).*

For the financial year 2023/2024, the Ministry spent \$9.8m on Microsoft licensing or subscriptions.

- *A brief description of what this cost covers (e.g. number of users, types of licences, etc.).*
- *The number of staff or users currently covered by Microsoft licensing.*

The Ministry was licensed for 10,730 users. This cost covers licensing for users, devices, servers and systems.

- *A list of Microsoft products or services (e.g. Outlook, Teams, OneDrive, SharePoint, Azure) currently in use within the organisation.*

The Ministry currently uses the following Microsoft products and/or services:

- Entra ID
- Azure B2C
- Visio
- MS Defender
- Exchange online
- Intune
- M365 E5
- Project
- Power BI
- Project Online
- Project Plan 3
- Team Rooms
- Azure
- Unified Support.

- *Whether any core business systems (e.g. document management, internal comms, project management, data storage) are hosted or run through Microsoft platforms (such as SharePoint, Azure, or Teams).*

The Ministry uses SharePoint as an EDMRS document management and intranet system, Teams of meetings, messaging and collaboration and Microsoft Azure for public cloud hosting.

- *Details of any enterprise agreements or long-term contracts with Microsoft, including the duration and renewal dates.*

The Ministry subscribes to the All of Government Microsoft Cloud, Software and Services Agreement (MCCSA). It is an all of government Microsoft volume licensing agreement that includes subscription based, perpetual and cloud services licensing. This agreement is accessed via Licensing Solution Partners.

The term is an initial three years with the option to renew for a further three years from 2027 and is set by Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and Microsoft. DIA entered this contract on 1 October 2024. Further details can be found on [www.digital.govt.nz](http://www.digital.govt.nz).

The Ministry also contracts directly with Microsoft for Unified Support. This was renewed for 15 months and expires on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

- *Whether there are any significant non-Microsoft alternatives used in the organisation (e.g. Google Workspace, Zoom, Slack, Dropbox), and if so, for what purpose.*

The Ministry is currently in the process of migration of information from our Objective document management system to SharePoint.

We use Amazon Web Services (AWS), Oracle and Google cloud platforms for various hosting of cloud and SaaS (Software as a Service) solutions along with Azure, selecting the best match for our workloads.

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**