



21 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 17 February 2025, requesting information about funding received by Destiny Church and their subsidiaries for the last 10 years.

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

- *For the last 10 years, broken down by year, can you please tell me how much funding the following organisations received:*
 - *Destiny Church*
 - *Legacy, Sisterhood Empowerment*
 - *Man Up*
 - *Youth Nation*
 - *Tū Tangata Riders*
 - *Vision New Zealand*
 - *Freedom New Zealand.*
- *Please provide details of what this funding involved.*

Please refer to the attached **Appendix One**, which details the organisation who received funding, the funding type, the service description and the amount funded, broken down by year.

- *Please provide communication to and from the department relating to the end of the funding.*

The Community Support Package Grant and the Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant are both one off grants, so they do not have start and end dates.

The following documents contain details of the funding. These documents are the only communication from the department that relate to the end of the funding. Please see attached:

1. Community Support Package Grant - Destiny Church Whakatane Trust
2. 20200403 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Auckland Trust
3. 20200405 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Christchurch Trust

4. 20200405 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Tauranga
5. 20200405 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Hamilton
6. 20200407 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Wellington
7. 20200409 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Nelson
8. 20200404 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Whakatane Trust
9. 20200423 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant - Destiny Church Rotorua

Some information in these documents is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

You can read details about the COVID-19 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant Fund on our website, here: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2020/covid-19/community-awareness-and-preparedness-grant-fund.html

Flexi-wage provides a wage subsidy and extra assistance to support employers to take on people who do not meet the entry level requirements of the job. This helps people get the employment skills and experience they need to get into and stay in unsubsidised employment.

To get Flexi-wage Subsidy a client must:

- Not meet the entry-level requirements of the job (as decided by the employer) and is either:
 - Disadvantaged in the labour market or
 - At risk of long-term benefit receipt or
 - Have specific employment needs and
- Meet all other eligibility criteria.

The amount paid and the duration is based upon a client's needs and their barriers to employment and reflects the level of support they need to reach the entry-level requirements of the job. Employers must retain employees after the Flexi-wage Subsidy has ended.

Flexi-wage is made up of 3 different payment bands based on the eligibility criteria the client meets. There are set durations for 2 of the payment bands.

- Band one – up to a maximum of \$5,638.68 over 24 consecutive weeks.
- Band two – up to a maximum of \$11,277.36 over 36 consecutive weeks.
- Band three – a maximum payable of \$22,000 in a 52 week period.

You can read more about Flexi-wage Subsidy here:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/employment-and-training/specific-employment-related-assistance/flexi-wage-subsidy/index.html

The Flexi-wage Subsidy shown in **Appendix One** was paid for a single client over a 52-week period. The contract began on 7 February 2023 and ended on 5

February 2024. The client file detailing this information is refused under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of this individual. The need to protect their privacy outweighs any public interest in the release of this information.

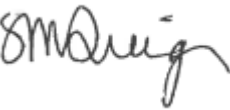
The Ministry were unable to locate any communication regarding the end of the Flexi-wage Subsidy. The subsidy ended when the contract ended.

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.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request regarding funding paid to Destiny Church, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services