# Ministry of Social Development logo

Chief Advisor, Economics and Policy

## Director Future Funding Models

## Disability Support Services

## Our purpose

**Manaaki tangata, Manaaki whānau**

We help New Zealanders to be safe, strong and independent

## Our commitment to Māori

As a **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** partner, we are committed to supporting and enabling Māori, whānau, hapū, Iwi and communities to realise their own potential and aspirations.

## Our strategic direction



## Our Values



## Working in the Public Service

Ka mahitahi mātou o te ratonga tūmatanui kia hei painga mō ngā tāngata o Aotearoa i āianei, ā, hei ngā rā ki tua hoki. He kawenga tino whaitake tā mātou hei tautoko i te Karauna i runga i āna hononga ki a ngāi Māori i raro i te Tiriti o Waitangi. Ka tautoko mātou i te kāwanatanga manapori. Ka whakakotahingia mātou e te wairua whakarato ki ō mātou hapori, ā, e arahina ana mātou e ngā mātāpono me ngā tikanga matua o te ratonga tūmatanui i roto i ā mātou mahi.

In the public service we work collectively to make a meaningful difference for New Zealanders now and in the future. We have an important role in supporting the Crown in its relationships with Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi.  We support democratic government. We are unified by a spirit of service to our communities and guided by the core principles and values of the public service in our work.

## The outcomes we want to achieve

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| New Zealanders get the support they require | New Zealanders are resilient and live in inclusive and supportive communities | New Zealanders participate positively in society and reach their potential |

## We carry out a broad range of responsibilities and functions including:

* Employment, income support and superannuation
* Community partnerships, programmes and campaigns
* Advocacy for seniors, disabled people and youth
* Public Housing assistance and emergency housing
* Resolving claims of abuse and neglect in state care
* Student allowances and loans

## **He whakataukī\***

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| --- | --- |
| Unuhia te rito o te harakeke  Kei hea te kōmako e kō?  Whakatairangitia, rere ki uta, rere ki tai;  Ui mai ki ahau,  He aha te mea nui o te ao?  Māku e kī atu,  He tangata, he tangata, he tangata\* | If you remove the central shoot of the flaxbush  Where will the bellbird find rest?  Will it fly inland, fly out to sea, or fly aimlessly;  If you were to ask me,  What is the most important thing in the world?  I will tell you,  It is people, it is people, it is people |

\* We would like to acknowledge Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri Trust for their permission to use this whakataukī

## Position detail

### Overview of position

### The Director Future Funding Models is responsible for building the evidence base, commissioning and contributing to the design, and ensuring Treasury buy-in, to Disability Support Services’ (DSS) funding and allocation models through the strengthening phase of the work programme. The Director Future Funding Models applies economic and funding expertise to provide intellectual and strategic leadership with a focus on developing robust funding allocation frameworks for DSS.

### This position serves as the key conduit between DSS and Treasury, providing economic, market, and health disability sector analysis and advice to input to the Policy work on the 'Fair Funding Allocation Approach' element of strengthening work.

### The Director works towards establishing multi-year funding tracks and potentially multi-year appropriation approaches, collaborating with the existing DSS Taskforce and DSS Operations resources to research and evaluation, actuarial and modelling capability to deliver evidence-based funding models.

### Location

National Office, Wellington

### Reports to

Programme Director, DSS Taskforce

## Key responsibilities

## Funding Model Development and Treasury Engagement

* Build the evidence base for fair, sustainable, and appropriate DSS funding and allocation models through the strengthening phase of the work programme.
* Serve as the key conduit between DSS and Treasury, establishing and maintaining constructive relationships to ensure Treasury buy-in to funding approaches.
* Provide economic, market, and health disability sector analysis to inform the 'Fair Funding Allocation Approach' element of the strengthening work.
* Lead work towards multi-year funding tracks and potentially multi-year appropriation.
* Ensure that DSS is using robust economic and funding frameworks in how it approaches its thinking on disability support funding, drawing on welfare economics and social investment principles.
* Lead complex, high-impact projects that drive long-term value for DSS, strategically integrating economic insights with policy innovation to shape future-focused funding solutions.

## Strategic Leadership and Analysis

* Promote improvement in analysis, framework design, business processes and decision-making to enhance the social outcomes achieved through DSS funding approaches.
* Provide strategic advice to senior leaders on economic frameworks, funding models and their implications for DSS's work.
* Ensure that funding approaches reflect current international and domestic economic trends, identifying opportunities for innovative funding solutions.
* Work collaboratively with other leads to identify benefits and support value management processes for DSS's funding models.
* Contribute to a strong focus on funding investment planning, including the delivery of benefits and outcomes.
* Provide support and governance coordination for relevant funding committees and Treasury engagements.

## Relationship Management

* Establish and manage constructive working relationships with Treasury officials, actuarial teams, and other external stakeholders to support a collective view of shared goals needed to achieve desired results.
* Develop and maintain constructive working relationships with other key functions within DSS and the wider Ministry, particularly those with responsibility or influence over funding models and financial planning.
* Work across the state sector with other senior Advisers and Economists to strengthen the use of evidence in funding models and to build communities of practice around disability funding approaches.
* Identify common areas of interest emerging across stakeholders and proactively develop opportunities for collaboration on funding models.

## Capability Building

* Provide leadership to lift the economic and funding capability in DSS by building the capability of the team through coaching and mentoring.
* Work with Taskforce leadership, actuarial, and modelling teams to ensure appropriate use of data and evidence in funding models.
* Champion the availability and use of research and evaluation findings, ensuring that insights are translated into practical funding approaches.
* Maintain a watching brief on international economic developments with implications for disability funding models and how evidence is used in other jurisdictions.

## Embedding te ao Māori

* Embedding and building on Te Ao Māori within their leadership role.
* Create the conditions for Te Ao Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all decisions to ensure Te Pae Tata is delivered and embedded in your business group.

## Health, safety and security

* Understand and implement your manager accountabilities as outlined in the HSS Accountability Framework.
* Ensure health, safety, security and wellbeing policies and procedures are understood, followed and implemented by all employees.

## Emergency management and business continuity

* Take responsibility for emergency management and business continuity confirming management of the critical functions that satisfy legislative, regulatory and client obligations are in place during and after a disruptive event.
* Ensure that policies and procedures encompassing emergency management, business continuity and crisis management arrangements are understood, followed, and implemented by employees.

**Knowledge**

* Advanced academic qualifications in economics, public policy, finance or a related field, ideally with focus on funding models and/or health economics.
* Substantial experience in economic analysis, funding model development, and/or financial planning, particularly in health, disability or social services sectors.
* Demonstrated experience working with Treasury or central agencies on funding approaches, preferably with experience in multi-year funding and appropriation models.
* Knowledge of disability sector funding challenges and opportunities.
* Understanding of actuarial principles and ability to bridge between actuarial and economic frameworks.
* Proven experience in establishing and leading the design and implementation of funding frameworks and models.
* Demonstrated ability to build effective relationships with Treasury and finance officials.
* Experience in executive level engagement and managing relationships with a range of diverse and challenging stakeholders, particularly in economic and financial contexts.
* Thorough understanding of government financial priorities and political contexts, with the ability to gain clarity from ministers and senior leaders on desired outcomes.
* Strong communication skills, capable of explaining complex economic and funding concepts to non-technical audiences.
* Experience leveraging research, evaluation, and actuarial modeling to develop evidence-based funding approaches.
* Experience working in or with government agencies on funding model development and appropriation processes.

## Attributes

* Effective communication and presentation skills to an executive level, with demonstrable ability to handle media and ministerial enquiries.
* Strategic leadership
* Senior managerial expertise and the management of people
* Strong strategic thinking, analytical and problem-solving skills.
* Ability to provide high quality specialised programme advice and reporting.
* Proven ability to effect change in an uncertain, ambiguous, complex environment.
* Proven negotiation and influencing skills.
* Welcomes and values diversity and contributes to an inclusive working environment where differences are acknowledged and respected.

### Key relationships

### Internal

* DCE Disability Support Services
* Programme Director, DSS Taskforce
* Associate DCE Disability Support Services
* Managers in DSS Business Group
* Leaders responsible for delivery across all elements of the programme
* Senior executives and leaders in other government agencies and authorities
* Stakeholder groups

### External

* External Government agency managers
* Service Providers

## Other

### Delegations

* Financial – 4
* Human Resources – 4

### Direct reports - No

### Security clearance - No

### Children’s worker – No

Limited ad hoc travel may be required.

**Position Description Developed:** June 2025