

Hon Andrew Little

Minister of Health
Minister Responsible for the GCSB
Minister Responsible for the NZSIS
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry



Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques

02 AUG 2021

Matthew Hooton

By email: fyi-request-15865-56d2a1a2@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: ALOIA057

Dear Matthew

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 22 June 2021. I shall respond to each part of your request in turn:

"The date on which you became aware that less than \$1 million of the \$1.9 billion had been spent on new facilities."

The then Minister of Health, Hon Dr David Clark, announced the Government's investment of \$1.9 billion into a cross-government mental wellbeing package as part of Budget 2019 announcements on Thursday 30 May 2019. At that point in time, spending on new capital facilities from the package was at zero, which is less than \$1 million.

Of the \$1.9 billion package, \$235 million was allocated to capital funding for five mental health facilities. The projects at the Lakes District, Waitematā, MidCentral, and Tairāwhiti District Health Boards (DHB) are in the design and planning phase, and Waikato DHB is progressing a detailed business case for its project.

I was well aware that since our specialist mental health facilities have been neglected for years and are in a very poor state, it would take time to determine the service needs of each community, to identify the best design solutions, and to develop business cases for these complex capital projects. As expected, these projects are in the early stages of planning and design, and I have every confidence that the finished facilities will provide the best possible services for their communities.

I receive a report on the status of health infrastructure projects each month, including the five capital projects funded by the cross-government mental wellbeing package.

"The dates since your appointment as Minister of Health on which you have requested or received written reports from the Ministry of Health on progress allocating and in fact spending the \$1.9 billion. I do not require copies of these reports, or any information on verbal reports requested or received."

As the \$1.9 billion cross-government mental wellbeing package includes funding across a number of Votes, not just Vote Health, I have interpreted this part of your request as including written reports (i.e., briefings, memoranda, aides mémoire, weekly reports, monthly

reports and formal information requests) on progress allocating and spending funding from this package that was allocated to Vote Health initiatives. Please find at Appendix 1, a list of documents received or requested regarding progress allocating spending the \$1.9 billion.

Please note I also receive and request written reports about other topics, including to support my attendance at meetings or events, that may include mention of, or information related to initiatives funded as part of the \$1.9 billion cross-government mental wellbeing package. However, these are deemed out of scope of your request as they are not specifically about progress allocating or spending the funding.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Hon Andrew Little', written over the typed name.

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Appendix 1 – Documents regarding progress allocating and spending the \$1.9 billion

Date	Received or requested
9 November 2020	Received briefing from the Ministry of Health
12 November 2020	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
19 November 2020	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
19 November 2020	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
26 November 2020	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
10 December 2020	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
10 December 2020	Received briefing from the Ministry of Health
10 December 2020	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
14 January 2021	Requested briefing from the Ministry of Health
26 January 2021	Received memorandum from the Ministry of Health
2 February 2021	Requested briefing from the Ministry of Health
2 February 2021	Requested information from the Ministry of Health
4 February 2021	Received information from the Ministry of Health
9–10 February 2021	Received briefing from the Ministry of Health
11 February 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
25 February 2021	Requested memorandum from the Ministry of Health
25 February 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
3 March 2021	Received briefing from the Ministry of Health
4 March 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
5 March 2021	Received memorandum from the Ministry of Health
10 March 2021	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
11 March 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
18 March 2021	Received Memorandum to the Minister of Health
24 March 2021	Requested information from the Ministry of Health
8 April 2021	Received information from the Ministry of Health
8 April 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
14 April 2021	Requested memorandum from the Ministry of Health
21 April 2021	Received memorandum from the Ministry of Health

Date	Received or requested
22 April 2021	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
22 April 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
27 April 2021	Received memorandum from the Ministry of Health
29 April 2021	Requested memorandum from the Ministry of Health
6 May 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
14 May 2021	Requested information from the Ministry of Health
20 May 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
20 May 2021	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
20 May 2021	Received memorandum from the Ministry of Health
25 May 2021	Requested briefing from the Ministry of Health
27 May 2021	Received aide-mémoire from the Ministry of Health
28 May 2021	Received monthly report from Health Infrastructure Unit
3 June 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
10 June 2021	Received weekly report from the Ministry of Health
10 June 2021	Received briefing from the Ministry of Health
15 June 2021	Received briefing from Health Infrastructure Unit