



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

31 October 2023

Letty Smith

[fyi-request-24305-3913b1f7@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-24305-3913b1f7@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Letty Smith

On 2 October 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*I would like a breakdown of the funding provided to staff employed within policy roles for tertiary papers in the nature of that for degrees, masters degrees, or professional legal studies (profs), broken down by type of study, and amounts by year for the financial years 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 and for the current financial year up to 1 September 2023.*

In response to your request, I can advise that two requests for tertiary education funding was received within the Ministry's Policy Group from 1 July 2020 to 1 September 2023.

1. Funding of \$58,323.72 (excluding GST) was approved on 25 October 2022 to enable an employee to do an Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA) 2023 with The Australia and New Zealand School of Government.
2. Funding of \$9,175.00 (excluding GST) was approved on 21 March 2022 to enable an employee to do a Master of Indigenous Studies at Victoria University of Wellington Te Herenga Waka.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 this response, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon MacPherson', written in a cursive style.

Simon MacPherson  
**Deputy Chief Executive  
Policy**