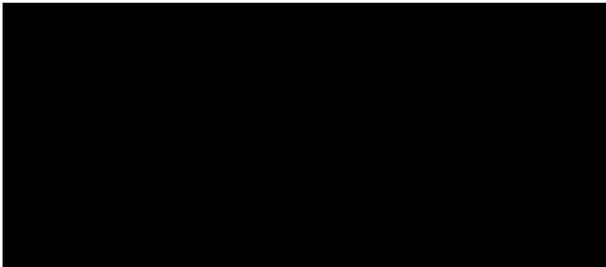


3 October 2019



### **Response to your request for official information**

I refer to your information request transferred to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 29 August 2019 under section 14 of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested:

- 1) *How many New Zealanders who meet the eligibility criteria for FFC (eg. Spouses of individuals with high and complex needs are not eligible, but parents of individuals with high and complex needs are eligible).*
- 2) *Please provide the following information for people who meet the eligibility criteria for individuals under 65, with high and complex disability needs (that is physical, intellectual or sensory):*
  - 2.1 *How many people are currently claiming FFC for 2018/2019? (Have changed the question about current financial year because we are only one month into this financial year. MOH financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June).*
  - 2.2 *What was the cost of that?*
  - 2.3 *How many individuals claimed FFC for the 2015/16 financial year?*
  - 2.4 *What was the cost of that?*
  - 2.5 *How many individuals claimed FFC for the 2016/17 financial year?*
  - 2.6 *What was the cost of that?*
  - 2.7 *How many individuals claimed FFC for the 2017/18 financial year?*
  - 2.8 *What was the cost of that?*
- 3) *What was the annual budgeted and actual expenditure for individuals under 65, with high and complex disability needs for the financial years 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18, 2018/2019 and for the 2019/2020 financial year (budget only).*
- 4) *Who would be eligible under the proposed new policy?*

On 5 September 2019, you clarified Question 1 of your request to refer to the number under the existing Funded Family Care (FFC) policy. You also added Question 4.

**Question 1: How many New Zealanders who meet the eligibility criteria for FFC (eg. Spouses of individuals with high and complex needs are not eligible, but parents of individuals with high and complex needs are eligible) (Note: This refers to existing FFC policy)**

As at 30 June 2019, there were around 4000 people aged 18 and over with high or very high needs accessing support (excluding residential clients). Out of these, 430 people are already accessing FFC.

**Question 2: Please provide the following information for people who meet the eligibility criteria for individuals under 65, with high and complex disability needs (that is physical, intellectual or sensory) (Note: Including 2.1 – 2.8)**

The table below outlines the budget and expenditure per annum on FFC clients (people with high and very high needs) since 2015/16:

| Funded Family Care |                |              |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Year               | Clients on FFC | Annual Spend |
| 2015/16            | 287            | \$5.9m       |
| 2016/17            | 332            | \$9.0m       |
| 2017/18            | 389            | \$9.5m       |
| 2018/19            | 430            | \$12.2m      |

**Question 3: What was the annual budgeted and actual expenditure for individuals under 65, with high and complex disability needs for the financial years 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18, 2018/2019 and for the 2019/2020 financial year (budget only).**

The table below outlines the budget and expenditure per annum on FFC clients (people with high and very high needs) since 2015/16:

| FFC Spend |         |         |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Year      | Actual  | Budget  |
| 2015/16   | \$5.9m  | \$5.8m  |
| 2016/17   | \$9.0m  | \$6.9m  |
| 2017/18   | \$9.5m  | \$9.6m  |
| 2018/19   | \$12.2m | \$12.2m |
| 2019/20   |         | \$13.8m |

An additional \$8m is budgeted for the 2019/20 year for the FFC policy changes announced on 7 July 2019.

**Question 4: Who would be eligible under the proposed new policy?**

Under the Ministry of Health's updated Funded Family Care policy, eligible people's resident spouses/partners and the resident family members of children under 18 years old can be paid for providing personal care and household management supports. It is estimated the number of users of FFC will increase by around 320 for Ministry clients, with an estimated increase of around 240 for DHB clients.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response (with your personal details removed), may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adri Isbister', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adri Isbister  
**Deputy Director-General**  
**Disability**