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OIA#3620

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22 November 2024

Tēnā koe Craig

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 31 October 2024, to the Disability Support Services (DSS) unit. You sought:

Average cost for residential care/supported living for individuals over the age of 21.

The average cost expended in the 2023/24 financial year to support an eligible disabled person over 21 years of age receiving DSS funded residential and/or supported living services is \$77,261.

Please refer to Table 1 for a further breakdown of this information.

Table 1: Average cost expended in the 2023/24 financial year to support an eligible disabled person over 21 years of age receiving DSS funded residential and/or supported living services (excluding gst).

Type of DSS-funded support	Average cost per person (2023/24)
Residential supports	\$107,413
Supported living services	\$15,821
Average across both support types	\$77,261

Please note the following:

- The average cost of residential care is higher than the average cost of supported living, which reflects a range of differences between the support offered. Residential care involves providing support for people, with a primary

focus on doing things for them, and providing board (such as accommodation, food, and utilities). Individuals who live in residential care are required to contribute to board costs. In contrast, supported living has a primary focus on supporting people to create plans for their lives and building up a person's capacity to do things for themselves. People in supported care are required to fund board costs themselves, with any support required to carry out activities funded separately.

- This average per-person expenditure excludes the costs of paying for sleepover support staff as well as additional funding to address pay equity for support workers employed in these services. These particular costs are funded separately and can't be calculated on a per-person basis.

I trust this answers your query. If you wish to discuss this response with us, or if you are seeking any further information, please contact OIA_requests@whaikaha.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'EMW', with horizontal lines above and below the signature.

Emma Williams
Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services