

# *Vote Disability Support Services*

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APPROPRIATION MINISTER(S): Minister for Disability Issues (M23)

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTERING THE VOTE: Ministry of Social Development (A25)

RESPONSIBLE MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Minister for Social Development and Employment

## *Overview of the Vote*

The Minister for Disability Issues is responsible for the appropriations in Vote Disability Support Services for the 2026/27 financial year covering the following:

- a total of nearly \$2,933 million on delivering disability support services to improve outcomes for disabled people, and
- a total of \$10 million on disability-related legal expenses.

Details of these appropriations are set out in Parts 2-4.

# Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections

## Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<b>Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>			
<b>Disability-related Legal Expenses (M23) (A25)</b> This appropriation is limited to funding the defence and settlement of disability-related legal claims against the Crown.	13,097	13,097	<b>10,000</b>
<b>Total Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>	13,097	13,097	10,000
<b>Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure</b>			
<b>Disability Support Services MCA (M23) (A25)</b> The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to deliver disability support services to improve outcomes for eligible disabled people by providing care or support, promoting their inclusion and participation in society and their independence.	2,556,882	2,556,882	<b>2,932,907</b>
<b>Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
<i>Administering and developing disability support services</i> This category is limited to commissioning and monitoring service provision; providing data and evidence services to better inform government decision-making; providing policy advice and support to the Minister to discharge their portfolio responsibilities.	26,498	26,498	40,552
<i>Connecting people with supports and communities</i> This category is limited to the provision, purchase and support of services connecting disabled people and their families to supports, information and their communities.	14,050	14,050	16,170
<i>Employing family members to provide care</i> This category is limited to the employment of specific family members to provide care to their disabled relatives.	170	170	400
<i>Sustainability of Disability Support Services</i> This category is limited to activities supporting the sustainability of Disability Support Services.	10,805	10,805	-
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
<i>Community-based support services</i> This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people living in a community-based setting.	953,889	953,889	1,118,914
<i>Connecting and strengthening disability communities</i> This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports that connect disabled people and their families to supports and information that strengthens their communities.	63,947	63,947	69,594
<i>Early intervention support services</i> This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people who are early in life, in life transitions, or in vulnerable situations.	63,399	63,399	69,685
<i>Environmental support services</i> This category is limited to the provision and purchase of environmental support services for disabled people.	241,495	241,495	265,436
<i>High and Complex Framework Services</i> This category is limited to forensic service coordination and services for people with an intellectual disability who are in hospital or community secure or supervised care.	94,960	94,960	104,374

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<i>Residential-based support services</i> This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people living in a residential-based setting.	1,085,015	1,085,015	1,245,532
<i>Non-Departmental Other Expenses</i>			
<i>Community Capacity and Support</i> This category is limited to providing financial assistance towards building capacity and support within communities.	2,654	2,654	2,250
<b>Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure</b>	2,556,882	2,556,882	2,932,907
<b>Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations</b>	2,569,979	2,569,979	2,942,907

## *Supporting Information*

### Part 1 - Vote as a Whole

This part provides trend information for the vote.

## 1.2 - Trends in the Vote

### Summary of Financial Activity

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26		2026/27			2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Non- Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000
<b>Appropriations</b>												
Output Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits or Related Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	370	286	467	13,097	13,097	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA)												
<i>Output Expenses</i>	-	2,058,802	2,329,010	2,413,529	2,554,228	2,554,228	57,122	2,873,535	2,930,657	2,764,180	2,764,180	2,764,180
<i>Other Expenses</i>	-	-	2,069	675	2,654	2,654	-	2,250	2,250	2,750	2,750	2,750
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	-	2,059,172	2,331,365	2,414,671	2,569,979	2,569,979	57,122	2,885,785	2,942,907	2,766,930	2,766,930	2,766,930
<b>Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts</b>												
Tax Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Tax Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-

Note - where restructuring of the vote has occurred then, to the extent practicable, prior years information has been restated as if the restructuring had occurred before the beginning of the period covered. In this instance Total Appropriations for the Budgeted and Estimated Actual year may not equal Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations and Multi-Year Appropriations in the Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections.

## Adjustments to the Summary of Financial Activity Table Due to Vote Restructuring

There have been no restructuring adjustments to prior year information in the Summary of Financial Activity table.

### 1.3 - Analysis of Significant Trends

#### *Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure*

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People was established from 1 July 2022 with expenditure of \$2,059 million. The Supporting Tāngata Whaikaha Māori and Disabled People Multi-Category Appropriation (within Vote Social Development) increased from 2022/23 to 2024/25 with actual expenditure of \$2,414 million. This was mainly due to increased demand and cost pressures for support services.

For 2025/26, Vote Disability Support Services was established, and the Supporting Tāngata Whaikaha Māori and Disabled People Multi-Category Appropriation was transferred into the new Vote as the Disability Support Services Multi-Category Appropriation (MCA).

Spending within the MCA increased from 2024/25 to 2025/26 with forecast expenditure of \$2,557 million continuing to reflect increased demand and cost pressures within services, newly developed pricing models and subsequent changes to contracted rates to providers. Demand pressure, particularly within residential services and flexible funding, across these financial years was less than in recent years, as the recommendations of the independent review were implemented.

Funding then increases to \$2,933 million in 2026/27 mainly due to an expense transfer of underspends from 2025/26 to 2026/27 (\$175.882 million) and is expected to support ongoing strengthening of DSS services, including the new residential pricing model and recent changes to assessment and allocations to ensure a consistent, fair and transparent system.

Funding then decreases from 2026/27 to 2027/28 due to the end of this carried forward funding.

## Part 3 - Details of Non-Departmental Appropriations

### 3.4 - Non-Departmental Other Expenses

#### Disability-related Legal Expenses (M23) (A25)

##### *Scope of Appropriation*

This appropriation is limited to funding the defence and settlement of disability-related legal claims against the Crown.

##### *Expenses*

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	13,097	13,097	10,000

##### *What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation*

This appropriation is intended to meet costs in relation to disability-related legal claims against the Crown, which includes funding legal costs and, where appropriate, making settlements.

##### *How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements*

An exemption was granted, as the category is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown Entity; and, under s15D(2)(b)(ii) of the PFA, as additional performance information is unlikely to be informative as this category is solely for funding the defence and settlement of disability-related legal claims against the Crown. Also, this is a demand-driven transactional based category.

##### *Reasons for Change in Appropriation*

The decrease in this appropriation for 2026/27 is due to the end of time-limited funding of \$3.097 million.

# Part 4 - Details of Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

## 4 - Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

### Disability Support Services (M23) (A25)

#### *Overarching Purpose Statement*

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to deliver disability support services to improve outcomes for eligible disabled people by providing care or support, promoting their inclusion and participation in society and their independence.

#### *Scope of Appropriation*

##### **Departmental Output Expenses**

###### *Administering and developing disability support services*

This category is limited to commissioning and monitoring service provision; providing data and evidence services to better inform government decision-making; providing policy advice and support to the Minister to discharge their portfolio responsibilities.

###### *Connecting people with supports and communities*

This category is limited to the provision, purchase and support of services connecting disabled people and their families to supports, information and their communities.

###### *Employing family members to provide care*

This category is limited to the employment of specific family members to provide care to their disabled relatives.

###### *Sustainability of Disability Support Services*

This category is limited to activities supporting the sustainability of Disability Support Services.

##### **Non-Departmental Output Expenses**

###### *Community-based support services*

This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people living in a community-based setting.

###### *Connecting and strengthening disability communities*

This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports that connect disabled people and their families to supports and information that strengthens their communities.

###### *Early intervention support services*

This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people who are early in life, in life transitions, or in vulnerable situations.

###### *Environmental support services*

This category is limited to the provision and purchase of environmental support services for disabled people.

**High and Complex Framework Services**

This category is limited to forensic service coordination and services for people with an intellectual disability who are in hospital or community secure or supervised care.

**Residential-based support services**

This category is limited to the provision and purchase of services and supports for disabled people living in a residential-based setting.

**Non-Departmental Other Expenses****Community Capacity and Support**

This category is limited to providing financial assistance towards building capacity and support within communities.

**Expenses, Revenue and Capital Expenditure**

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>2,556,882</b>	<b>2,556,882</b>	<b>2,932,907</b>
<b>Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
Administering and developing disability support services	26,498	26,498	40,552
Connecting people with supports and communities	14,050	14,050	16,170
Employing family members to provide care	170	170	400
Sustainability of Disability Support Services	10,805	10,805	-
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
Community-based support services	953,889	953,889	1,118,914
Connecting and strengthening disability communities	63,947	63,947	69,594
Early intervention support services	63,399	63,399	69,685
Environmental support services	241,495	241,495	265,436
High and Complex Framework Services	94,960	94,960	104,374
Residential-based support services	1,085,015	1,085,015	1,245,532
<b>Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>			
Community Capacity and Support	2,654	2,654	2,250
<b>Funding for Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
<b>Revenue from the Crown</b>	<b>51,523</b>	<b>51,523</b>	<b>57,122</b>
Administering and developing disability support services	26,498	26,498	40,552
Connecting people with supports and communities	14,050	14,050	16,170
Employing family members to provide care	170	170	400
Sustainability of Disability Support Services	10,805	10,805	-

### *Components of the Appropriation*

The majority of Disability Support Services provided are delivered on an eligibility basis. Budgets are indicative only within appropriation categories.

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<b>Residential-based support services</b>			
Residential Care - Community Group Homes	859,903	859,903	1,022,634
Ancillary Costs for Residential Care	100,187	100,187	18,857
Care in Aged Residential Facilities	78,528	78,528	85,105
Residential Care for Children	8,376	8,376	7,261
Other components	38,021	38,021	111,675
<b>Community-based support services</b>			
Flexible funding	682,980	682,980	730,764
Home and Community Supports	129,849	129,849	185,247
In Between Travel	44,438	44,438	48,895
Facility Based Respite Care	30,169	30,169	30,004
Hosting Services	21,709	21,709	23,114
Other components	44,744	44,744	100,890
<b>Environmental support services</b>			
Equipment and Modification Services	153,505	153,505	168,131
Sensory Services	83,556	83,556	91,966
Other components	4,434	4,434	5,339
<b>High and complex framework services</b>			
Non-Hospital Accommodation	42,111	42,111	43,565
Forensic Hospital Secure Services	41,269	41,269	46,288
Other components	11,580	11,580	14,521
<b>Connecting and strengthening disability communities</b>			
Needs assessment and service coordination	41,800	41,800	45,216
Disability Information and Advisory Services	11,572	11,572	12,090
Audit, Monitoring and Review	8,579	8,579	10,223
Other components	1,996	1,996	2,065
<b>Early intervention support services</b>			
Child Development	33,807	33,807	38,056
Behaviour Support Services	21,740	21,740	24,181
Other Components	7,852	7,852	7,448

### *What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation*

This appropriation is intended to support disabled people and their families to access services and supports that assist them in their daily life in line with their assessed needs.

### *How Performance will be Assessed for this Appropriation*

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
The number of eligible people accessing disability support services will be no less than (see Notes 1 and 2)	50,000	54,000	50,000

Note 1 - 'Eligible people' refers to those who have been assessed as meeting the eligibility criteria for accessing supports provided or funded by Disability Support Services. An assessment is undertaken through an Enabling Good Lives (EGL) site, which are managed by Disability Support Services, or a Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) agency, which are funded by Disability Support Services. Disability Support Services-funded support services are generally available to people who have a physical, intellectual or sensory disability, autism (or a combination of these) which:

- is likely to continue for a minimum six months, and
- result in a reduction of independent function to the extent that ongoing support is required.

Note 2 - This measure counts the number of people who access disability support services via Needs Assessment and Service Coordination agencies or an Enabling Good Lives site at a point in time. It excludes environmental support services and child development services.

### *What is Intended to be Achieved with each Category and How Performance will be Assessed*

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
<b>Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
<b>Administering and developing disability support services</b>			
This category is intended to support effective commissioning and monitoring of service provision, and high-quality data and policy advice to support decision-making and delivery of services.			
The Disability Support Services procurement process is in line with government standards	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
The percentage of complaints regarding Disability Support Services (DSS) that receive either a resolution notification or progress update within 20 working days of DSS receiving the complaint will be no less than (see Disclosure 1)	95%	95%	95%
<b>Connecting people with supports and communities</b>			
This category is intended to support access for disabled people and their families to supports and information, and improve connections with their communities, through the Enabling Good Lives (EGL) approach (see Note 1).			
The EGL approach (access to an EGL connector and a flexible, personalised budget) is made available to 98 percent of eligible Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS) verified students in Christchurch. Note: currently ORS verified students aged 14+ are eligible for the EGL approach in the Christchurch demonstration (see Disclosure 2)	Achieved	Achieved	Measure removed

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
<b>Assessment of Performance</b>			
Access to Enabling Good Lives budgets (Personal Budget, Early Investment and Immediate Resourcing) and support are made available to 99% of eligible disabled people who submit an Enabling Good Lives Proposal to Mana Whaikaha (see Disclosure 2)	99%	99%	Measure removed
The percentage of eligible people with an Enabling Good Lives funding plan in place who have their support options reviewed at least every 12 months will be no less than (see Disclosure 2 and Notes 2 and 3)	Replacement measure	Replacement measure	80%
<b>Employing family members to provide care</b>			
This category is intended to support the employment of specifically-determined family members to provide care to their disabled relatives.			
The percentage of specifically-determined family members providing care to their disabled relatives who are paid accurately and within the timeframes outlined in their employment agreement with MSD will be no less than	100%	100%	100%
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>			
<b>Community-based support services</b>			
This category is intended achieve the delivery of community-based supports to eligible people (see Notes 2 and 4).			
The percentage of eligible people receiving self-directed funding arrangements will be no less than (see Disclosures 1 and 3 and Notes 2 and 5)	10%	30%	30%
The percentage of eligible people who report being 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the support they received through a Home and Community Support Service will be no less than (see Disclosure 4 and Notes 2 and 6)	New measure	New measure	Baseline to be established
<b>Connecting and strengthening disability communities</b>			
This category is intended to support disabled people and their families to access and build understanding of services and information by investing in services including Needs Assessment and Service Coordination agencies (NASCs), and Disability Information and Advice Services (DIAS).			
The percentage of disabled people who are assessed by a Needs Assessment and Service Coordination agency within 20 working days of their referral being acknowledged will be no less than (see Disclosure 1)	80%	65%	80%
The percentage of eligible people who are provided their funded support options within 20 working days of being assessed by a Needs Assessment and Service Coordination agency will be no less than (see Disclosure 1 and Note 2)	85%	85%	85%
The percentage of eligible people with a Needs Assessment and Service Coordination support plan in place who have their support options reviewed at least every 12 months will be no less than (see Disclosure 5 and Notes 2 and 3)	New measure	New measure	80%

Assessment of Performance	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
<b>Early intervention support services</b>			
This category is intended to support eligible people who are early in life, in life transitions, or in vulnerable situations by providing early intervention supports (see Note 2).			
The percentage of people referred to a Behaviour Support Treatment Programme who completed it will be no less than (see Disclosure 1 and Note 7)	75%	75%	75%
<b>Environmental support services</b>			
This category is intended to support eligible people to access services and supports that minimise the negative impacts of environmental barriers (see Note 2).			
The percentage of equipment available and supplied from the Disability Support Services' standardised equipment list to ensure value for money will be no less than (see Disclosure 1 and Note 8)	75%	75%	75%
<b>High and Complex Framework Services</b>			
This category is intended to enable eligible people who receive forensic service coordination and secure or supervised disability services under the High and Complex Framework to access safe and appropriate supports (see Note 2).			
The percentage of compulsory care recipients under the High and Complex Framework who have their needs reviewed within six months will be no less than	100%	100%	100%
The percentage of eligible people who receive support under the High and Complex Framework whose support is compliant with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child treaty will be no less than (see Disclosure 1 and Note 2)	100%	97%	100%
<b>Residential-based support services</b>			
This category is intended to provide the delivery of supports and services to eligible people to meet their individual residential care and support needs (see Notes 2 and 9).			
Percentage of Disability Support Service clients moving from mainstream residential service to community support services increases over time so that the percentage receiving community support services is greater than or equal to (see Disclosure 6)	77%	85%	Measure removed
The percentage of eligible people receiving Residential Community Group Home supports that are within the Global Pricing Tool's banded rates range will be no less than (see Disclosure 6 and Notes 2 and 10)	Replacement measure	Replacement measure	Baseline to be established
The percentage of audits of residential care providers that are completed in accordance with the DSS-funded annual audit plan will be no less than (see Disclosure 6 and Note 11)	Replacement measure	Replacement measure	90%
The percentage of residential care providers audited as part of the DSS-funded annual audit plan who are found to have achieved or exceeded the primary requirements will be no less than (see Disclosure 6 and Note 12)	Replacement measure	Replacement measure	Baseline to be established

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
<b>Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>			
<b>Community Capacity and Support</b>			
This category is intended to achieve increased participation and contribution by disabled people by supporting the networks that disabled people and their families belong to through the use of community grants and community-led solutions.			
An exemption was granted, as the category is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown Entity; and, under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the PFA, the amount of this annual category for a Non-Departmental Other Expense is less than \$5 million	Exempted	Exempted	Exempted

The changes to performance information in this appropriation is part of the first phase of a broader review of performance measures within this Vote. Further changes will be introduced in the coming years as the DSS strengthening work programme continues to be implemented.

Disclosure 1 - The wording of these measures has been adjusted for clarity.

Disclosure 2 - The existing measures have been replaced with one new measure to better align with the intention of the funding. The new measure has been chosen to assess the compliance of EGL sites with regularly ensuring that eligible peoples' funding plans remain suitable to them.

Disclosure 3 - The standard has been raised to better align with the performance trend.

Disclosure 4 - This measure has been added to provide further performance information on this category. The measure has been chosen to assess client satisfaction with the Home and Community support services funded through this category. The standard for this measure will be set through the 2026/27 Supplementary Estimates process once the baseline has been established.

Disclosure 5 - This measure has been added to provide further performance information on this category. The new measure has been chosen to assess the compliance of NASC agencies with regularly ensuring that eligible peoples' support plans remain suitable to them.

Disclosure 6 - The existing measure has been replaced with three new measures to better align with the intention of the funding. The new measures have been chosen to:

- assess the quality of the new Global Pricing Tool, which was implemented for the Community Group Home supports on 1 December 2025. The tool includes changes to contracts and systems to administer these supports to ensure a more standardised approach. The standard for this measure will be set through the 2026/27 Supplementary Estimates process once the baseline has been established
- assess the delivery of the DSS-funded audit service against the planned audit programme, and
- assess that residential care providers are delivering services in line with audit requirements. The standard for this measure will be set through the 2026/27 Supplementary Estimates process once the baseline has been established.

Note 1 - The EGL sites were developed as a result of partnership between government and community to demonstrate what the Enabling Good Lives vision and principles could look like in practice. Disability Support Services manages EGL sites in Christchurch, Waikato, and MidCentral (Mana Whaikaha).

Note 2 - 'Eligible people' refers to those who have been assessed as meeting the eligibility criteria for accessing supports provided or funded by Disability Support Services. An assessment is undertaken through an EGL site, which are managed by Disability Support Services, or a NASC agency, which are funded by Disability Support Services. Disability Support Services-funded support services are generally available to people who have a physical, intellectual or sensory disability (or a combination of these) which:

- is likely to continue for at least six months, and
- needs ongoing support to live independently, to the extent that ongoing support is required.

Note 3 - Eligible people receiving support through an EGL site or NASC agency are supported to develop plans that reflect their aspirations, which may include both funded and non-funded support options. EGL funding plans and NASC support plans cover the funded options for those who have been allocated funding. There are a range of funded options available, including direct funding, to support choice and control over how eligible people are supported to remove disability-related barriers.

Note 4 - Community-based supports are services provided to eligible people who need support in their home and community. Services may include person-directed budgets, supported independent living, personal care, household management, respite care and carer support.

Note 5 - Self-directed funding arrangements support eligible people and their families with more choice in who, when and how support services are provided to support living a good life. Self-directed funding arrangements may include Choices in Community Living, Individualised Funding, Enhanced Individualised Funding, Flexible Disability Supports, and Personal Budgets.

Note 6 - The Home and Community Support service offerings may include services such as personal care, sleepover/night support and household management. These services make up a large proportion of the Community-based supports funded by Disability Support Services.

Note 7 - The Behaviour Support Treatment Programme funded by Disability Support Services supports disabled people and their families to find positive ways to communicate and find strategies to reduce or eliminate harmful behaviour.

Note 8 - Disability Support Services' equipment is categorised into three bands. The standardised equipment list refers to 'band one' equipment which includes items that:

- meet the needs of a wide range and large number of disabled people
- are low cost (generally less than \$1,000 excl. GST), and
- are durable and the majority are able to be reissued in a cost-effective way.

Note 9 - Residential-based supports relate to the provision of 24-hour support in a home-like setting at levels necessary for a safe and satisfying home life. One of these is the Community Group Homes support service, which includes a range of supports assisting people to live in their community.

Note 10 - The Global Pricing Tool is used in the setting of prices for Community Group Homes support services and informs both current pricing and sustainable pricing into the future. It estimates fair and reasonable prices for community residential supports using estimated costs.

Note 11 - This measure relates to the DSS-commissioned and funded audit programme of Community Group Homes support service which is undertaken by an external auditor. The audit approach includes the safety and wellbeing of disabled people through early identification and escalation of quality and safeguarding concerns. Audits are scheduled according to an annual audit plan, which will form part of a future risk-informed audit cycle. In addition to this audit programme, DSS relies on information from the HealthCert audit programme in their performance monitoring of large residential support providers, who are required to be certified.

Note 12 - As part of the DSS-funded audit programme, providers may be considered to have achieved or exceeded the audit requirement when they have performed in line with the applied audit tools and, where applicable, committed to making improvements identified. These will reflect the requirements under the service specifications, contract terms, and align with the Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard and business viability standards.

### *Service Providers for the Multi-Category Appropriation*

The table shows the main service providers for this appropriation. The majority of services provided through the Disability Support Services MCA are capacity-based. Figures are indicative only.

Provider	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2025/26 Estimated Actual \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	Expiry of Resourcing Commitment
<b>Crown Entity</b>				
Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand	319,720	319,720	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children	10,128	10,128	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Accident Compensation Corporation	6,804	6,804	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
<b>Non-Government Organisations</b>				
Manawanui Support Limited	292,738	292,738	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Idea Services Limited	266,886	266,886	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
NZCL Limited	157,687	157,687	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Spectrum Care Limited	90,424	90,424	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Hohepa	59,282	59,282	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
Other providers	1,299,036	1,299,036	Not Yet Known	Ongoing
<i>Yet to be determined with contract negotiation</i>	-	-	2,873,535	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,502,705</b>	<b>2,502,705</b>	<b>2,873,535</b>	

### *End of Year Performance Reporting*

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Ministry of Social Development in the Ministry of Social Development Annual Report.

### Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
<b>Current Government</b>						
<b>Departmental Output Expenses</b>						
<i>Administering and Developing Disability Support Services</i>						
Making the Care System Safe: Building a Diverse, Capable and Safe Care Workforce	2025/26	155	-	-	-	-
Making the Care System safe: Recognising and Responding to Abuse in Care	2025/26	1,800	700	150	150	150
Recordkeeping and Access: Uplift Care Record Keeping to Support New Systems and Improve Management and Access	2025/26	500	-	-	-	-
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>						
<i>Community-Based Support Services</i>						
Disability Support Services Cost Pressures - Supporting Disabled People	2025/26	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000
<i>Connecting and Strengthening Disability Communities</i>						
Disability Support Services Cost Pressures - Supporting Disabled People	2025/26	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Making the Care System safe: Recognising and Responding to Abuse in Care	2025/26	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
<i>Early Intervention Support Services</i>						
Disability Support Services Cost Pressures - Supporting Disabled People	2025/26	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
<i>Environmental Support Services</i>						
Disability Support Services Cost Pressures - Supporting Disabled People	2025/26	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
<i>High and Complex Framework Services</i>						
High and Complex Framework Funding Pressures	2025/26	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
<i>Residential-Based Support Services</i>						
Disability Support Services Cost Pressures - Supporting Disabled People	2025/26	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000

### Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2026/27 is mainly due to an increase of \$175.882 million as a result of a transfer from 2025/26 to 2026/27 to support Disability Support Services long-term financial sustainability and the return of a \$200 million forecast underspend in 2025/26.