



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2022-4585

24 January 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your request that was partially transferred by Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand to the New Zealand Defence Force on 6 December 2022 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Responses to your questions are provided below.

How much of the Mental Health Funding provided through Budget 2019 of \$1.8 billion has yet to be spent or allocated nationally?

How much of this funding has been appropriated and in what fiscal year/s?

How much of this funding by year has been committed?

The table at Enclosure One provides a breakdown of the funding that was allocated and spent by financial year.

Please provide information on any carry forwards and in what fiscal year/s?

As the Veterans Support System Upgrade project did not start until the 2020/21 financial year, the \$738,000 that was allocated in the 2019/20 financial year was carried forward.

Please could you provide a definition for each of the following terms 'allocated', 'committed', 'spent', 'underspend'.

Funds that are "allocated" are those that are available for spending for a specified purpose. "Committed" funding is future expenditure to be incurred on contractual or statutory obligations entered into at the balance date. Funds that are "spent" are those that have been expended; and an "underspend" is when the actual amount spent is less than the allocated amount.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely



AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

Enclosure:

1. Wellbeing Budget items for mental health

OIA-2022-4583 – Enclosure One

Initiative	Description	Funding	2019/20-\$000		2020/21-\$000		2021/22-\$000		2022/23-\$000		Total-\$000	
			Allocated	Spent	Allocated	Spent	Allocated	Spent	Allocated	Spent	Allocated	Spent
Promoting and Supporting the Health and Wellbeing of Veterans and their families	This funding will support the provision of a modern and responsive service to meet statutory obligations in response to the Independent Review of the Operations of the Veterans Support Act 2014	Operating	608	635	636	673	664	727	157	166	2,065	2,200.84
		Capital	738	0	896	2,174	247	2,624	120	325	2,001	5,123*
		Total	1,346	635	1,532	2,847	911	3,351	277	491	4,066	7,324

* Note: Capital Funding is related to the Veterans Support System Upgrade project (VSS). The Treasury provided a capital injection of \$2.001M to Veterans' Affairs, an additional \$3.56M was released by the New Zealand Defence Force from surplus depreciation.