

3 August 2020

John Luke

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Tēnā koe John

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of **7 July 2020**. Your request being:

I noted on your website

<https://women.govt.nz/news/new-fund-women-now-open>

May I ask who is the assessor of this new fund, does it have an independent assessment committee? Who is the member of this committee or who is the decision maker of this new fund. What is their job description and pay rate, how they been selected to do this job.

Applications to the COVID-19 Community Fund were considered by an assessment panel appointed by the Ministry for Women. The panel made the funding decisions. The panel comprised of five members as follows:

- two officials from the Ministry for Women (one of whom was panel Chair)
- one official from the Treasury
- one representative from Rural Women New Zealand
- one representative from Pacific Women's Watch.

We are withholding the names of the panel members under Section 9 (2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons. We do not consider that the public interest in releasing those names outweighs the grounds for withholding.

The panel members were required to consider the applications and assess them against the eligibility and assessment criteria. The Panel made decisions on which applications to fund and which to decline.

The pay rate for the two non-government representatives was according to the Cabinet Fees Framework, being \$270/per day.

The five panel members were selected to ensure that the panel was representative of a range of perspectives and expertise.

Official Information Act responses

As we have noted in previous responses to your official information requests, this response, with your personal details redacted, may be published on the Ministry's website. If you have any concerns or comments related to this, please let us know by emailing ministerialservicing@women.govt.nz, within two weeks of the date of this letter.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Renee Graham
Chief Executive