



30 October 2019



Dear 

Thank you for your email of 26 August 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *How many Ministry of Education Learning Support staff are currently undertaking the function of Learning Support Facilitator?*
2. *How many of the LSF functions are being held by Service Managers?*
3. *In which locations are LSFs currently functioning?*
4. *How many Learning Support Facilitators are proposed for 2019 and 2020?*
5. *What will the full complement (as a whole number) of Learning Support Facilitators be?*
6. *What if any discussion or policy development has occurred with regard to the re-design of the roles of service manager, or MoE field staff roles, or RTLBs to align with or be replaced by the LSF?*

On 18 September 2019, we wrote to you to extend the timeframe of our response to your request, pursuant to section 15(A)(1)(b) of the Act, for the reason that consultations was necessary to make a decision on your request as such that a proper response to your request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

My response to your request is provided in the order of your request:

1. *How many Ministry of Education Learning Support staff are currently undertaking the function of Learning Support Facilitator?*

I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act, for the reason that the Ministry does not collect this level of detailed information. The learning support facilitation function is not a specific role, and the number of staff doing any learning support facilitation varies from day to day.

2. *How many of the LSF functions are being held by Service Managers?*

Facilitating access to services is fundamental to the Service Manager role. Providing learning support facilitation within the Learning Support Delivery Model is how many of the Service Managers have been working for some time. The Ministry expects that all or most Service

Managers would undertake some learning support facilitation functions as part of their role in implementing the Learning Support Delivery Model.

3. *In which locations are LSFs currently functioning?*

The Ministry Staff are undertaking a range of learning support facilitation functions in all regions.

4. *How many Learning Support Facilitators are proposed for 2019 and 2020?*

No specific numbers of staff have been proposed for this function. The scale of the facilitation work will vary depending on the local need and the regional preferences, and any one staff member may provide facilitation services for only one cluster, or for several clusters.

5. *What will the full complement (as a whole number) of Learning Support Facilitators be?*

Learning support facilitation is a function, not a role. Hence, there is no complement of learning support facilitators. Also, there is no specific number of staff who may provide learning support facilitation functions as part of their role.

6. *What if any discussion or policy development has occurred with regard to the re-design of the roles of service manager, or MoE field staff roles, or RTLBs to align with or be replaced by the LSF?*

As learning support facilitation is not a role, there is no plan to replace any role with a learning support facilitator. The role of the Service Manager was recently resized, and at that time the Ministry undertook to review the role further in the context of the Learning Support Delivery Model. I discussed with you on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October the process we are getting underway with staff for this purpose.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Coralanne Child  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Sector Enablement & Support**