

19 August 2025

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Local Government Official Information Request

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy which is available on the Council's website [LGOIMA Request Policy: Rangitikei District Council](#).

Your request for information was received on 1 August 2025 and requested information about how the survivors of state care funding is used.

Your question was initially stated as: "Just wondering what you guys do for survivors of state and faith based care?" and upon requesting more context you provided the below question.

Question:

The council got 50k from the survivor fund for survivors of state care, just wondering what this money was used for or how it helps survivors? /what to access?

Response:

Access to funding:

A State Care Survivor Support and Recognition Fund was set up by the New Zealand Government and was administered by Community Operations Hāpai Hapori in partnership with the Crown Response Office. Applications to this fund were open for eligible individuals and eligible Agencies to access, up to 30 June 2025. Council doesn't hold any information regarding future funding availability, or applications, for individuals or Agencies.

What Council received:

Council was eligible to apply to the fund as an Agency because it has unmarked graves relating to former psychiatric hospitals within its territorial boundaries. In this light, Council applied to the fund and received \$50,000.

What Council is using the funding for:

Council is using the funding to undertake a project to memorialise, remember and honour those who died in state care and are buried in unmarked graves, in ways that are appropriate for local communities. Specifically, Council is installing approximately 115 individual memorials at Mt View Cemetery, Marton, for unmarked graves for patients from Lake Alice, along with reflective spaces with seating and plaques.

How it helps survivors:

Council's funding application did not relate to individual survivors. However, Council has liaised, and continues to liaise, with representatives of the Lake Alice Survivors Group regarding the detail of, and progress with, its memorialisation and remembrance project.

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.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/about/contact-us/official-information> with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [REDACTED] 06 327 0099.

Yours sincerely,



Leanne Macdonald
Group Manager Corporate Services