

The Treasury

Budget 2021 Information Release

August 2021

This document has been proactively released and is available on

- the **Budget website** from August 2021 to May 2022 only at <https://budget.govt.nz/information-release/2021>, and on
- the **Treasury website** from later in 2021 at <https://treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/budget-2021-information-release>.

Information Withheld

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified.

Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to sections of the Act under which information has been withheld:

- [1] 6(a) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [23] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [25] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [26] 9(2)(ba)(i) - to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied
- [33] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [34] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [35] 9(2)(g)(ii) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting ministers, members of government organisations, officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment
- [36] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [37] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [38] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [39] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [40] Not in scope
- [42] 18(d) - information is already publicly available or will be publicly available soon.

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Act has been made, as listed above. For example, a [23] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(a).

Copyright and Licensing

Cabinet material and advice to Ministers from the Treasury and other public service departments are © **Crown copyright** but are licensed for re-use under **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)** [<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>].

For material created by other parties, copyright is held by them and they must be consulted on the licensing terms that they apply to their material.

Accessibility

The Treasury can provide an alternate HTML version of this material if requested. Please cite this document's title or PDF file name when you email a request to information@treasury.govt.nz.

Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Finance
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister for Racing



21 December 2020

Hon Kris Faafoi
Minister for Broadcasting and Media
Parliament Buildings

Dear Kris

Thank you for your letter outlining the manifesto commitments and cost pressures in your portfolio that may need to be funded over the next three years.

I have considered the cost pressures and manifesto commitments in your portfolio, and am inviting you to submit the following initiative:

RNZ Cost Pressure: Maintaining Current Capability

This initiative seeks \$0.9 million per year to address remuneration and workforce cost pressures. It will ensure current staffing levels and core capability are maintained.

Please note that while I have invited this initiative to be submitted, this does not guarantee that it will receive funding. The Treasury will assess the value for money and relative priority of all initiatives, and this advice will help to inform the shape of the final Budget 2021 package to be decided by Budget Ministers. Therefore, I expect that all initiatives will be supported by a robust case for funding and a strong evidence base, as well as scaling and reprioritisation options.

I wish to emphasise that the other information you have provided will help to lay the groundwork for future Budgets, and provides an important insight into the challenges and opportunities facing our Government this term. I will discuss options for funding these initiatives through Budgets 2022 or 2023 at a later stage.

Thank you for your ongoing work.

Yours sincerely

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance