

The Treasury

Budget 2022 Information Release

August 2022

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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
- [27] 9(2)(ba)(ii) - 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 otherwise to damage the public interest
- [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] Out of Scope
- [41] 18(c)(i) - that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment
- [42] 18(d) - information is already publicly available or will be publicly available soon

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Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance

Minister for Infrastructure

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Minister for Racing



22 October 2021

Hon Andrew Little
Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's
Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Dear Andrew

Overview

Thank you for your recent engagement on Budget 2022 providing an overview of the initiatives arising from the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques. As you will be aware, we have set a very high bar for the initiatives that will be invited for submission.

Over 560 initiatives were submitted through the Budget 2022 invitation process. Indicative funding sought totals \$64 billion operating and \$9.2 billion capital across the forecast period. As will be obvious to you, that is far beyond the funding available and has required me to make early decisions to allow for an effective Budget process.

Even having done this, I still need your assistance to support the Budget process. In that light, I have had to carefully reduce the number of potential Budget 2022 initiatives through the invitation process, to reduce wasted effort and to ensure that the Budget decision-making stage is as strategic and targeted as possible, supported by robust value-for-money analysis and confidence of delivery.

I expect the number of initiatives submitted in December across all portfolios to be less than the number invited. Similarly, I expect total funding sought to be less than the indicative funding of invited initiatives.

As I raised during last Budget, I expect the DPMC-led inter-agency work programme tasked with responding to the Royal Commission findings to have identified specific capability requirements across the system and provided a robust assessment of whether current funding and resources are prioritised effectively, to support consideration of initiatives in Budget 2022.

As lead coordination Minister, I ask that you ensure your colleagues only submit initiatives that are the highest priority, represent strong value for money, and are implementation ready. I will only be supporting initiatives that are implementation ready, unless there is clear reason as to why an exception should be considered.

I also ask that initiatives are ranked, ensuring any interdependencies are appropriately signalled and identifying those that are less discretionary and higher priority.

Budget 2022 Invitations

With this in mind, I have considered the proposals submitted by Ministers, including those outlined in your overview of Royal Commission response initiatives.

I have written to the respective portfolio Ministers outlining which of their initiatives are invited for consideration through Budget 2022 and these are detailed in Annex 1.

The Education and Justice sector initiatives are being treated in a different way:

- Education Royal Commission response initiatives will need to be included within the specific Education funding envelope, and
- Justice sector initiatives will be managed through the Justice cluster process.

All Budget 2022 initiatives are expected to complete all value-for-money information and analysis requirements outlined in the initiative submission template due 10 December. Initiative submission templates and guidance were communicated to departments on 30 September and are available on CFISnet.

Please note that while I have invited these initiatives to be submitted for consideration, this does not guarantee that they 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 2022 package considered by Cabinet. Therefore, I expect that all initiatives will be supported by a robust case for funding and a strong evidence base, as well as realistic scaling and reprioritisation options.

Next steps

The proposals that I have not invited for submission as Budget 2022 initiatives may be addressed through future Budgets or other levers such as reprioritisation of baseline funding. As per the expectations that I have previously outlined around fiscal management, I will not support any out-of-cycle funding requests for these initiatives unless there is a compelling case for urgency.

I wish to emphasise that the other information that you have provided will help to lay the groundwork for future Budgets and this information provides an important insight into the challenges and opportunities facing our Government this term.

I look forward to discussing options for funding initiatives through Budget 2023 at a later stage.

Thank you for your ongoing work.

Yours sincerely



Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

Annex 1: Budget 2022 Invitations

Title	Comment and/or condition
13753 Investing in Social Cohesion (Vote Social Development)	The expectation is that the Minister submits scaled options for this initiative to reflect concerns regarding the implementation readiness of this initiative.
13763 RCOI – Community Engagement Response Fund (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
13744 RCOI - System Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into March 2019 Terrorist Attack (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
13745 RCOI - Annual hui on countering terrorism and violent extremism (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
13762 RCOI - Safer communities fund (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
13747 RCOI – Research fund for preventing and countering violent extremism (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
[33] (Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet)	N/A
13716 Empowering Ethnic Communities to thrive in Aotearoa New Zealand through community development, leadership and dialogue (Vote Internal Affairs)	I expect these initiatives to be scaled and to focus on only the highest priority areas for further investment in the Ministry

<p>13719 Ensuring Government services respond to the diversifying needs of Aotearoa New Zealand's ethnic communities (Vote Internal Affairs)</p>	<p>I expect these initiatives to be scaled and to focus on only the highest priority areas for further investment in the Ministry.</p>
<p>[33] (Vote Internal Affairs)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>13677 GCSB initiative 3 (Vote Communications Security and Intelligence)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>13674 SIS initiative 2 (Vote Security Intelligence)</p>	<p>N/A</p>