

# The Treasury

## Budget 2024 Information Release

### September 2024

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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
- [31] 9(2)(f)(ii) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- [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] 18(c)(i) - that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment

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**From:** [Hamish Dick](#)  
**To:** [Jesse Doherty \[TSY\]](#); [Amanda Wilson \[TSY\]](#); [Rosalinda Pierce \[TSY\]](#); [Mark Hodge \[TSY\]](#)  
**Cc:** [Stacey Wymer \[TSY\]](#); [Keiran Kennedy \[TSY\]](#); [Geraldine Treacher \[TSY\]](#); [Jas Singh \[TSY\]](#); [Kevin Cho \[TSY\]](#); [Emily Fulford \[TSY\]](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations  
**Date:** Monday, 6 May 2024 5:18:25 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[Changes to Budget 2024 public transport decisions countersigned PM - 06 May 2024.pdf](#)

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Fully signed version attached. Thanks for your work on this!

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**From:** Hamish Dick  
**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2024 11:57 AM  
**To:** 'Jesse Doherty [TSY]' <[Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz)>; Amanda Wilson [TSY] <[Amanda.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Amanda.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz)>; Rosalinda Pierce [TSY] <[Rosalinda.Pierce@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Rosalinda.Pierce@treasury.govt.nz)>; Mark Hodge [TSY] <[Mark.Hodge@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Mark.Hodge@treasury.govt.nz)>  
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**Subject:** RE: Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations

Here you go – note PM's signature still to be added.

Thanks,

Hamish

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**From:** Jesse Doherty [TSY] <[Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz)>  
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**Subject:** RE: Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations

Hey Hamish,

Transport have heard that MOF and Brown signed the same options yesterday, do you have a copy of the signed briefing?

Thanks,

Jesse



**Jesse Doherty** (she/her) | **Board Appointments Coordinator, Kaiāwhina Kāhui – Team Assistant, & Vote Analyst** | **Governance and Appointments and National Infrastructure Unit** | **Te Tai Ōhanga –**

## The Treasury

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**Subject:** RE: Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations

Much appreciated. I'll get back to you on this asap.

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**From:** Amanda Wilson [TSY] <[Amanda.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Amanda.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz)>  
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**To:** Hamish Dick <[Hamish.Dick@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Hamish.Dick@parliament.govt.nz)>; Rosalinda Pierce [TSY] <[Rosalinda.Pierce@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Rosalinda.Pierce@treasury.govt.nz)>; Mark Hodge [TSY] <[Mark.Hodge@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Mark.Hodge@treasury.govt.nz)>; Jesse Doherty [TSY] <[Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz](mailto:Jesse.Doherty@treasury.govt.nz)>  
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**Subject:** RE: Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations

Hey Hamish,

Thanks for this. Our comments are below. Please let me know if you require any further information.

*Late changes to the Budget package create significant risks to the accuracy of the fiscal forecasts, financial recommendations and estimate documentation. There is also a precedent risk with amending the Budget package post Cabinet agreement.*

*However, we note that Cabinet made the following agreements on Monday:*



*With respect to the Return of Funding for Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvement Programme (Initiative 15720) the Minister of Finance will need to be satisfied that this decision fits within the ambit of recommendation 51 in the Budget Cabinet paper.*

*The Treasury does not consider the Bus Decarbonisation changes (initiative 15719) to be an outstanding matter consistent with recommendation 52 in the Budget Cabinet paper (final decisions were taken by Cabinet on 29 April) and does not support this saving being returned.*

*In terms of the paper itself, in order to confirm these changes and reflect them in the fiscal forecasts and estimates, we require agreement from Delegated Ministers **on Monday 6 May 2024**. We recommend that MoF does not formally agree to this paper tonight, but provides direction on her decisions **by 10am tomorrow**.*

**The attached paper from MoT will need to be amended to include the fiscal impacts of making these decisions (for example, the appropriation tables will be required for options being considered and costings and phasing for recommendation 11 is needed also.** We require this information to be in the final signed version in order to reflect it in the forecasts and estimates. We have already advised MOT that this would be required tomorrow, so expect them to be able to turn this around for a new version to go into Ministers weekend bags.

**Amanda Wilson | Senior Analyst – Budget Team (Savings Lead) | Te Tai Ōhanga – The Treasury**

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**Subject:** Budget 2024 Transport Recommendations

**Importance:** High

Hi,

See attached, which I have just received. I intend to put to MoF tonight – any TSY comments I can put over the top of these are most welcome (in the next hour).

Hamish



**Hamish Dick**

Private Secretary – Finance

**Office of Hon Nicola Willis**

Minister of Finance

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3 May 2024

OC240474

**Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister**  
**Hon Nicola Willis, Minister of Finance**  
**Hon Simeon Brown, Minister of Transport**

**Action required by:**  
Sunday, 5 May 2024

## CHANGES TO BUDGET 2024 PUBLIC TRANSPORT DECISIONS

### Purpose

This memo provides financial recommendations to make changes to funding for public transport initiatives in Budget 2024 following further conversations between Ministers.

### Recommendations

	Prime Minister	Minister of Finance	Minister of Transport
1 note that on Monday 29 April 2024 when agreeing the Budget 2024 package, Cabinet authorised the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Portfolio Ministers to make decisions to finalise outstanding matters in the Budget package in the week following Cabinet (including changes to appropriations)	✓	✓	
2 note that the Treasury does not consider the below decisions to relate to outstanding matters (final decisions were taken by Cabinet on 29 April)	✓	✓	[33]
3 note that after further consideration, Ministers are considering changes to two Vote Transport initiatives	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	

[33]

[33]





**15720: Return of Funding for the Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvement Programme**

- |    |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|
| 15 | note that through the Budget 2024 Cabinet paper, Cabinet agreed to end <sup>[33]</sup> of the "Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvements" initiative and return the associated funding | ✓ | ✓ |
| 16 | note that Cabinet approved the following appropriation changes to return <sup>[33]</sup> to give effect to the decision noted above   | ✓ | ✓ |

[33]

- 17 **agree** to rescind Cabinet's decision to end <sup>[33]</sup> of the "Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvements" initiative, enabling <sup>[33]</sup> to continue within an amended fiscal envelope.  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No

**EITHER**

- 18 **agree** to reinstate funding of \$<sup>[33]</sup> 3 of the Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvement initiative, which would result in <sup>[33]</sup> of savings for the Crown  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No

- 19 **approve** the following change to appropriations to give effect to the policy decision in recommendation 18 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No

Vote Transport Minister of Transport	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Non-Departmental Output Expenses: Retaining and Recruiting Bus Drivers MYA	[33]				
<b>Total Operating</b>					

- 20 **note** that indicative spending profile for the funding appropriated to the "Retaining and Recruiting Bus Drivers (MYA)" in recommendation 19 above is as follows:

Indicative annual spending profile	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears
	[33]				


**OR**


- 21 **agree** to reinstate funding of <sup>[33]</sup> of the Public Transport Workforce Sustainability and Skill Improvement initiative, which would result in <sup>[33]</sup> of savings for the Crown  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No

- 22 **approve** the following change to appropriations to give effect to the policy decision in recommendation 21 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No

- 24 **agree** that the proposed changes to appropriations above be included in the 2023/24 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No
- 25 **agree** that the expenses incurred under recommendations 7, 10, 13, 19 and 22 above impact the operating balance and net debt directly  Yes / No  Yes / No  Yes / No
- 26 **note** that late changes will be required to the fiscal forecast and the Vote Transport Estimates of Appropriations 2024/25 and Vote Transport Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations 2023/24 in respect of any changes to appropriations or decisions with financial implications taken above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rt Hon Christopher Luxon  
**Prime Minister**  
05 / 05 / 24  
..... / ..... / .....

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon Nicola Willis  
**Minister of Finance**  
..51.5. / ..24 .

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon Simeon Brown  
**Minister of Transport**  
31512024