

The Treasury

Budget 2024 Information Release

September 2024

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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
- [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

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).

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From: Hamish Coghill [TSY]
Sent: Thursday, 21 March 2024 4:30 pm
To: ^Parliament: Hamish Dick; Amanda Wilson [TSY]; Keiran Kennedy [TSY]; Conor McBride [TSY]; Ephraim Wilson [TSY]; Jas Singh [TSY]; Chris Brunt [TSY]; Emily Fulford [TSY]; Tim Hampton [TSY]
Cc: ^Parliament: Lachlan Stark
Subject: Re: Vote Foreign Affairs - Budget Bilateral

Thanks Hamish - this covers all the key decisions.

I'll give a more detailed read out of the discussions tomorrow.

Hamish

From: Hamish Dick <Hamish.Dick@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 4:16 PM
To: Amanda Wilson [TSY] <Amanda.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz>; Keiran Kennedy [TSY] <Keiran.Kennedy@treasury.govt.nz>; Hamish Coghill [TSY] <Hamish.Coghill@treasury.govt.nz>; Conor McBride [TSY] <Conor.McBride@treasury.govt.nz>; Ephraim Wilson [TSY] <Ephraim.Wilson@treasury.govt.nz>; Jas Singh [TSY] <Jas.Singh@treasury.govt.nz>; Chris Brunt [TSY] <Chris.Brunt@treasury.govt.nz>; Emily Fulford [TSY] <Emily.Fulford@treasury.govt.nz>
Cc: ^Parliament: Lachlan Stark <lachlan.stark@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: Vote Foreign Affairs - Budget Bilateral

Kia ora koutou,

The attached letter has been received by the Minister of Finance.

The decisions from the bilateral with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as I understand them, are:

- Accept the \$15m p.a. Vote FA savings outlined in the attached letter at para 5.
- Fund a scaled version of the Pacific Property initiative, focusing on cost escalations. The International team will look at options for this.
- [37] and [38]
- [33]

Hamish C can clarify any of the above points.

It is recognised that the decisions at this bilateral won't be reflected in the BM3 package. On aggregate, the fiscal impact will hopefully be minimal/neutral (if not slightly positive for the operating allowance).

As a next step, the International team will draft a response to the attached letter.

Thanks,

Hamish



Hamish Dick

Private Secretary – Finance

Office of Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance

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M: [39]

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