

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

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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Subject:
Attachments: ATT00001.vnd.ms-officetheme

From: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 11:34 AM
To: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Thanks Luke. Caralee is keen to add to the existing material with the explicit questions on what has happened in the past, separate from what treasury advised.

From: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 11:31:42 AM
To: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Apologies. Ben pointed out that they weren't always called allowances so my quick ctrl f, search may have missed some material.

Looking closer, it seems like we have since 1997, given some guide to future new spending. We've got this Q&A already in the briefing and can point Brendan to it.

Luke

Did Treasury advise the Minister not to publish outyear allowances? Is this PFA compliant?

- We are currently advising the Government on outyear allowances.
- As the Minister said at the BPS release, given the current level of uncertainty she will make decisions on outyear allowance once she has received final economic and fiscal forecasts.
- The PFA does not require publishing outyear allowances in the BPS but in line with convention the Minister stated that her B24 allowance would be no more than \$3.5 billion.

From: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 11:02 AM
To: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Thanks. Can you package these into two Q&A and send to Brendan?

From: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 11:00 AM

To: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Good point, sorry was looking at the wrong date, it was published in Dec.

From: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:45 AM
To: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Thanks Luke. I thought the legislation required that BPS had to be published before 31 March. So how did the 2010 one get published in April?

On publishing allowances, I would say something like:
While it is common that allowances are published in the BPS, this is not always the case. The last time was in 2002/03.

Tim

From: Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:41 AM
To: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>; Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

Thanks. I've just trawled back through the past BPS docs.

BPS 2010 was published in April [Budget Policy Statement 2010 | The Treasury New Zealand](#) but that is an outlier. While there have been a few published in Feb/March e.g. 1997, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2012, 2021 this years is definitely quite late historically.

I also think its reasonably safe to say not publishing allowances is very rare. Looking back through the BPS's, I had to go back to 2002/2003 to find where we hadn't set out operating allowances/allocations.

From: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:09 AM
To: Ben Gaukrodger [TSY] <Ben.Gaukrodger@treasury.govt.nz>; Luke Came [TSY] <Luke.Came@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

From: Tim Hampton [TSY]
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:08 AM
To: Jayne Winfield [TSY] <Jayne.Winfield@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning

OK. I was hoping Kam would know of the top of his head.

From: Jayne Winfield [TSY] <Jayne.Winfield@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Tim Hampton [TSY] <Tim.Hampton@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning
Importance: High

This is more for your team so have passed this off to you, you should be hearing from Brendan shortly.

From: Brendan McBryde [TSY] <Brendan.McBryde@treasury.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:59 AM
To: Jayne Winfield [TSY] <Jayne.Winfield@treasury.govt.nz>; Kamlesh Patel [TSY] <Kamlesh.Patel@treasury.govt.nz>
Cc: Tracey Burns [TSY] <Tracey.Burns@treasury.govt.nz>; Mia Haysom [TSY] <Mia.Haysom@treasury.govt.nz>
Subject: BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning
Importance: High

[]

Morning Jayne, Kam – just out of a prep session with Caralee for the BPS hearing at FEC tomorrow morning, 8.15am – 8.45am.

She is first interested to know if either of you are available to attend, and second to have an understanding of whether this year’s BPS is unprecedented in its lateness of publication and its lack of operating allowances.

Please let me know how you are placed – the hearing is downstairs in Select Committee Room 2, Bowen House.

Brendan McBryde

Team Leader | Governance and Accountability | Te Tai Ōhanga – The Treasury

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	M	T	W	T	F
AM	TSY	TSY	TSY	TSY	TSY
PM	WFH	TSY	TSY	WFH	TSY

