# The Treasury

# **Budget 2024 Information Release**

# September 2024

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- [1] 6(a) to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
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- [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
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- [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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# **Cabinet**

# **Minute of Decision**

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# 2024 Budget Package: Vote Agriculture, Biosecurity, Fisheries and Food Safety

On 29 April 2024, Cabinet:

## **Appropriation Administrator: Ministry for Primary Industries**

approved the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2024 Budget package, as listed in the summary tables below and detailed in the attached initiative documents:

# **Summary of initiatives:**

## **Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)**

		Sm - increase/(decrease)					
Initiative Name ID	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears		
16119	Return of Funding - Accelerating Development of Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Mitigations	(5.660)	-	(2.476)	(2.350)	(0.350)	
15678	Biosecurity Monitoring - Increased Cost Recovery	-	(3.100)	(6.000)	(6.000)	(6.000)	
15663	Reduction in Funding - Mātauranga Māori-Based Approaches to Agricultural Emissions Reduction	-	(7.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	
15675	Return of Funding – Ministry for Primary Industries Operating Efficiencies	-	(34.226)	(27.826)	(27.826)	(27.826)	
15661	Return of Funding - On-Farm Support Services	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)	
15672	Return of Funding - Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Programme	-	(4.400)	(4.600)	(4.600)	(4.600)	
<b>Total Oper</b>	rating	(5.660)	(54.926)	(57.902)	(57.776)	(55.776)	

# **Summary of contingency initiative:**

# **Operating Contingency**

		\$m - increase/(decrease)					
Initiative ID	Initiative Name	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
15687	Agricultural Emissions Pricing Tagged Contingency - Return of Funding	(18.500)	(56.500)	(29.900)	(34.900)	(24.700)	
<b>Total Oper</b>	ating	(18.500)	(56.500)	(29.900)	(34.900)	(24.700)	

Note: Throughout the document, "total operating" refers to funding over five years (2023/24 to 2027/28) and "total capital" refers to funding over 10 years (2023/24 to 2032/33).

Rachel Hayward Secretary of the Cabinet

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Return of Funding – Accelerating Development of Agricultural

**Greenhouse Gas Mitigations** 

**Description:** This initiative returns \$10.800 million of uncommitted funding

for the Accelerating Development of Agriculture Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation Programme. This initiative was funded through the Climate Emergency Response Fund.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Operating Balance Impact*	(5.660)	-	(2.476)	(2.350)	(0.350)	
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-	
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	(5.660)	-	(2.476)	(2.350)	(0.350)	

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Non-Departmental Output Expenses:						
Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund (MYA)	-	-	(2.476)	(2.350)	(0.350)	
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:						
Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)						
Non-Departmental Output Expenses:						
Agriculture: Climate Emergency Response Fund	(5.660)	-	-	-	-	
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)	(5.660)	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Operating</b>	(5.660)	-	(2.476)	(2.350)	(0.350)	

- **agreed** to scale the Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations programme;
- **noted** that there may be a corresponding reduction to outputs from this initiative, such as reduced investment in agricultural greenhouse gas mitigation research and reduced support for addressing barriers to mitigation technology uptake;
- **agreed** that the Multi Year Appropriation: "Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund" is adjusted by (\$5.176 million);
- **noted** that the amounts shown in the Appropriation Changes table for the Multi Year Appropriation: "Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund" reflect the change to the indicative annual spending profile;
- **noted** that \$8.136 million of operating funding associated with this initiative was originally funded from the Climate Emergency Response Fund Initiative 14058 (Agriculture Emissions Reduction Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations);
- **noted** that related savings have also been provided through Initiative 15663 as both initiatives source savings from the same programme;

**CAB-24-MIN-0148.02 Initiative No: 15687** 

**Vote:** Agriculture, Biosecurity, Fisheries and Food Safety

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Agricultural Emissions Pricing Tagged Contingency – Return

of Funding

**Description:** This savings initiative returns \$164.500 million total operating

funding, held in tagged contingency for the development of an agricultural emissions pricing system. This initiative was funded through the Climate Emergency Response Fund.

# **Tagged Contingency**

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 &	
					Outyears	
Operating Contingency	(18.500)	(56.500)	(29.900)	(34.900)	(24.700)	
Capital Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	(18.500)	(56.500)	(29.900)	(34.900)	(24.700)	

- 8 **noted** that \$164.5 million operating funding associated with this initiative is from the Climate Emergency Response Fund Initiative 15365, Setting Up and Operating an Agricultural Emissions Pricing Scheme tagged operating contingency;
- 9 **noted** that, following the above adjustments, the remaining balance of this tagged contingency is \$10.000 million operating only (\$2.000 million in 2024/25 and \$8.000 million in 2025/26);
- 10 **noted** that the original requirement to draw down funding was for Cabinet to consider a detailed business case and to determine the terms of drawdown at that point;
- agreed to amend the drawdown requirement such that drawdown is subject to Cabinet agreement to an implementation plan and work programme;
- **noted** that this initiative relates to Initiatives 16048 in Vote Agriculture, Biosecurity, Fisheries and Food Safety, 15593 in Vote Environment, and 16074 in Vote Revenue;
- agreed that the new expiry date for the tagged contingency be 1 February 2025;

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Biosecurity Monitoring – Increased Cost Recovery

**Description:** This savings initiative returns Crown funding of \$21.100

million total operating funding for biosecurity monitoring. This will be replaced by third party payment for services delivered

by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 &	
					Outyears	
Operating Balance Impact*	-	(3.100)	(6.000)	(6.000)	(6.000)	
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-	
No Impact	-	3.100	6.000	6.000	6.000	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:						
Biosecurity: Border and Domestic Biosecurity Risk Management (MCA)						
Departmental Output Expenses:						
Border Biosecurity Monitoring and Clearance	-	(3.100)	(6.000)	(6.000)	(6.000)	
(funded by revenue Crown)						
Border Biosecurity Monitoring and Clearance	-	3.100	6.000	6.000	6.000	
(funded by revenue Other)						
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Biosecurity: Border and Domestic Biosecurity Risk Management (MCA)	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	-	-	-	-	

- agreed to decrease the Crown's share of funding for biosecurity surveillance contracts and to remove a portion of an existing Crown subsidy on low value goods to deliver savings in line with the Government's priorities;
- **noted** that Cabinet will separately consider proposals to increase levies and the associated financial implications by \$2.9 million from 2025/26 onwards for low value goods;
- **noted** that this will increase the proportion of costs which biosecurity risk exacerbators or beneficiaries face in funding these biosecurity activities;

**CAB-24-MIN-0148.02 Initiative No: 15663** 

**Vote:** Agriculture, Biosecurity, Fisheries and Food Safety

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Reduction in Funding – Mātauranga Māori-Based Approaches

to Agricultural Emissions Reduction

**Description:** This savings initiative returns \$37.000 million total of

uncommitted operating funding for developing mātauranga

Māori-based approaches to accelerate new emissions

mitigations. This initiative was funded through the Climate

Emergency Response Fund.

## **Appropriation Changes**

	\$m – increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 &	
					Outyears	
Operating Balance Impact*	-	(7.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-	
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	(7.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expenses: Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund (MYA)	-	(7.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	(7.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)	(10.000)

- **agreed** to return all uncontracted funding from the Mātauranga Māori-Based Approaches Emissions Reduction Programme;
- **noted** that this initiative reduces funding available for industry to develop mātauranga Māori-based approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on-farm;
- agreed that the Multi Year Appropriation: "Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund" is adjusted by (\$37.000 million);
- noted that the amounts shown in the Appropriation Changes table for the Multi Year Appropriation: "Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations Research and Development Fund" reflect the change to the indicative annual spending profile;
- 21 **noted** that \$17 million of operating funding associated with this initiative was originally funded from the Climate Emergency Response Fund Initiative 14058 (Agriculture Emissions Reduction Accelerating Development of Greenhouse Gas Mitigations);

noted that related savings have also been provided through Initiative 16119 as both initiatives source savings from the same programme;

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Return of funding – Ministry for Primary Industries Operating

Efficiencies

**Description:** This savings initiative returns \$117.700 million total operating

funding for Ministry for Primary Industries personnel, contract costs, and property leases, as the number of funded Full Time

Equivalent roles will be reduced from 1 July 2024.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Operating Balance Impact*	-	(34.226)	(27.826)	(27.826)	(27.826)	
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-	
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	(34.226)	(27.826)	(27.826)	(27.826)	

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

		\$m - i	ncrease/(decr	ease)	
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Agriculture: Administration of Grants and Programmes	-	(13.335)	(10.842)	(10.842)	(10.842)
(funded by revenue Crown)					
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)	-	(13.335)	(10.842)	(10.842)	(10.842)
Biosecurity: Border and Domestic Biosecurity Risk Management (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Border Biosecurity Monitoring and Clearance	-	(6.685)	(5.435)	(5.435)	(5.435)
(funded by revenue Crown)					
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Biosecurity: Border and Domestic Biosecurity Risk Management (MCA)	-	(6.685)	(5.435)	(5.435)	(5.435)

		\$m - in	crease/(decre	ase)	
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears
Development and Implementation of Primary Industries Policy Advice (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Agriculture: Policy Advice and Ministerial Servicing (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(11.458)	(9.315)	(9.315)	(9.315)
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Development and Implementation of Primary Industries Policy Advice (MCA)	-	(11.458)	(9.315)	(9.315)	(9.315)
Fisheries: Managing the Resource Sustainably (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Fisheries Enforcement and Monitoring	-	(1.678)	(1.364)	(1.364)	(1.364)
(funded by revenue Crown)					
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Fisheries: Managing the Resource Sustainably (MCA)	-	(1.678)	(1.364)	(1.364)	(1.364)
Food Safety: Protecting Consumers (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Food Safety: Assurance (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(1.070)	(0.870)	(0.870)	(0.870)
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Food Safety: Protecting Consumers (MCA)	-	(1.070)	(0.870)	(0.870)	(0.870)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	(34.226)	(27.826)	(27.826)	(27.826)

- agreed to reduce departmental funding for the Ministry for Primary Industries to achieve operational efficiencies across its organisational structure, procurement, and office footprint;
- noted that these savings may reduce the Ministry for Primary Industries' overall delivery capacity with an anticipated headcount reduction of up to 384 roles (across its back office and frontline enabling functions);
- 25 **noted** that related savings have also been provided in Initiative 16121 in Vote Forestry;
- noted that further fiscally neutral changes to departmental appropriations may be sought through future baseline update processes to reflect changes from the Ministry for Primary Industries' "Improving our Efficiency" proposal which includes reduction in staff numbers;

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: On-Farm Support Services – Return of Funding

**Description:** This savings initiative returns \$27.200 million total operating

funding for the planned expansion of On-Farm Support

Services.

# **Appropriation Changes**

		\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears		
Operating Balance Impact*	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)		
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-		
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-		
Total	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)		

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:						
Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)						
Departmental Output Expenses:						
Agriculture: Administration of Grants and Programmes (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)	
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)	
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	(6.200)	(7.000)	(7.000)	(7.000)	

- agreed to stop planned growth of 50 FTEs for expansion of the On-Farm Advisory Service;
- 28 **noted** that this initiative reduces the Ministry for Primary Industries' ability to service increased demand for on-farm advisory services;

**Appropriation Administrator:** Ministry for Primary Industries

Title: Return of Funding – Sustainable Land Management and

Climate Change Programme

**Description:** This savings initiative returns \$18.200 million total of

uncommitted operating funding for the Sustainable Land

Management and Climate Change Programme.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact*	-	(4.400)	(4.600)	(4.600)	(4.600)
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	(4.400)	(4.600)	(4.600)	(4.600)

<sup>\*</sup> Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)					
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & Outyears	
Non-Departmental Output Expenses:						
Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research (MYA)	-	(4.400)	(4.600)	(4.600)	-	
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:						
Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)						
Non-Departmental Output Expenses:						
Agriculture: Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research	-	-	-	-	(4.600)	
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Agriculture: Programmes Supporting Sustainability (MCA)	-	-	-	-	(4.600)	
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	(4.400)	(4.600)	(4.600)	(4.600)	

- agreed to return all uncommitted funding from the Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Programme;
- **noted** that this initiative may reduce industry up-take of on-farm climate change or sustainability solutions;
- agreed that the Multi Year Appropriation: "Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research" is adjusted by (\$13.600 million);
- noted that the amounts shown in the Appropriation Changes table for the Multi Year Appropriation: "Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research" reflect the change to the indicative annual spending profile.