

# The Treasury

## Budget 2024 Information Release

### September 2024

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#### Information Withheld

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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23 April 2024

Hon Judith Collins  
Minister of Science, Innovation and Technology  
Parliament Buildings

Dear Judith

## **Budget 2024 decisions – Science, Innovation and Technology portfolio**

Following Hon David Seymour's Budget 2024 submission on behalf of portfolio Ministers for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and our discussions over the past weeks, this letter confirms the decisions made as part of Budget 2024.

I would be grateful if you could direct your officials to work with the Treasury to complete the financial recommendations, as well as to prepare the necessary Estimates and Supplementary Estimates material for your sign off by 26 April.

A reminder that these decisions remain Budget Sensitive and should only be shared on a need-to-know basis. My office will provide further advice on the approach to Budget communications.

## **Incurring or committing to expenditure before fiscally neutral transfers agreed**

There are two technical initiatives requesting fiscally neutral adjustments (FNAs) that officials have brought to my attention: *Expanding the Impact of Vision Mātauranga* (ID 16052) and *Founder and Startup Support Programme* (ID 16053).

Treasury officials inform me that expenditure has been incurred or committed to before these FNAs have been approved. It is important that expenditure is only incurred or committed after the appropriate approvals are in place. I ask that you remind the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment of this.

I have declined the technical initiative for *Vision Mātauranga*, and have agreed to \$143,000 for the *Founder and Startup Support Programme* for 2023/24 and 2024/25 to cover the committed costs under this programme.

Thank you again for your support towards the successful delivery of Budget 2024.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis'.

Hon Nicola Willis  
**Minister of Finance**

Cc Hon David Seymour, Associate Minister of Finance  
Carolyn Tremain, Chief Executive – Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

# Vote Business, Science and Innovation (Science, Innovation and Technology)

Budget 2024 Package as at 16 April

All operating values are in average per annum and capital values are total capital. Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding. Initiatives are listed under lead portfolio.

New Spending	Savings and Revenue
<p><b>Cost Pressures and Capital Cost Escalations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nil</li> </ul> <p><b>Government Policy Commitments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ID 15782: <b>GeoNet and the National Seismic Hazard Model</b> <i>Operating: \$26.7m</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Baseline Savings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ID 15786: <b>Science Innovation and Technology portfolio: fiscal savings</b> <i>Operating: (\$92.4m), Capital: (\$533.5m)</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Capital Pipeline Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ID 15806: <b>Wellington Science City – return of funding</b> <i>Operating: (\$15.7m), Capital: (\$400m)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Total New Spending Initiatives</b> Operating: \$26.7m, Capital: -</p>	<p><b>Total Savings and Revenue Initiatives</b> Operating: (\$108.1m), Capital: (\$933.5 m)</p>
<p><b>Net Total: Operating (\$81.4m), Capital: (\$933.5 m)</b></p>	

\*Denotes no outyears funding (time-limited).