

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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Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance
Minister for the Public Service
Minister for Social Investment
Associate Minister of Climate Change



- 2 APR 2024

Hon Judith Collins
Minister Responsible for the Government Communications Security Bureau
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON 6012

Dear Judith

Thank you for your recent March Baseline Update submission. I have examined your submission and approve your updated baseline for Vote Communications Security and Intelligence.

Thank you for the information you have provided on tagged contingencies, which will be reviewed and considered through the Budget process. As a result, I will only consider drawdowns before Budget 2024 that are critical and urgent for the current 2023/24 financial year, do not substantively impact the overall Budget 2024 package, and meet the requisite drawdown conditions.

Confirmed and In-Principle Expense and Capital Transfers:

The baseline update proposes several confirmed and in-principle expense and capital transfers that have previously been agreed in baseline updates. While Cabinet Office circular CO (18) 2 states that funding for a specific and discrete project should not be repeatedly transferred, as the transfers relate to unforeseen delays in priority capital investments, I agree to these transfers again at this baseline update.

I acknowledge the progress update in your submission on each of the projects for which a further expense transfer has been sought. However, please ensure that completion of these projects is prioritised to avoid future transfers.

Re-confirmation of the October 2023 Baseline Update:

I also re-confirm the October 2023 Baseline Update as submitted and approved last year.

Budget 2024 decisions

Following our discussions this week, I am pleased to confirm the decisions made as part of Budget 2024 as attached to this letter. 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 9 April.

A reminder that these decisions remain Budget Sensitive and should be treated on a need-to-know basis. My office will provide further advice on the approach to Budget communications. Thank you again for your support towards the successful delivery of Budget 2024.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance

Final Budget 2024 Decisions for Vote Communication Security and Intelligence

Initiatives agreed for inclusion in the Budget 2024 package

		Minister Sought		Final Budget 2024 Decision																
		Operating (\$m)	Capital (\$m)	Operating (\$m)						Capital (\$m)										
Budget Track	Title	Total	Total	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	Total	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32	32/33	Total
Return Tagged Contingency	Building Critical Cyber Resilience	(5.742)	-	-	(0.453)	(1.717)	(1.786)	(1.786)	(5.742)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
[33]																				