

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



23 April 2024

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister of Conservation
Parliament Buildings

Dear Tama

Budget 2024 decisions – Vote Conservation

Following our discussions over the past weeks, this letter confirms the decisions made as part of Budget 2024. The proposed revenue increases as a result of changes to the International Visitors Levy have been included in the Budget package, however, are subject to Cabinet consideration and therefore, are not reflected in the attached portfolio overview.

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 as soon as possible.

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. 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', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance

Cc Penny Nelson, Director-General – Department of Conservation

Vote Conservation

Budget 2024 Package as at 12 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>Cost Pressures and Capital Cost Escalations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil <p>Capital Investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [33] and [38] <p><i>Operating: \$0.8m, Capital: \$13.8m</i></p>	<p>Baseline Savings</p> <p>Total Operating: (\$33.0m), Total Capital: (\$2.2m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID 15626: Enabling functions for Conservation – Savings towards Initial Baseline Exercise <i>Operating: (\$11.3m)</i> • ID 15627: External services – Savings towards Initial Baseline Exercise <i>Operating: (\$1.6m)</i> • ID 15628: Contaminated Sites Programme – Savings towards Initial Baseline Exercise <i>Operating: (\$2.0m)</i> • ID 15630: Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Programme – Savings towards Initial Baseline Exercise <i>Operating: (\$4.3m), Capital: (\$2.2m)</i> • ID 15631: Jobs for Nature Programme – Savings towards Initial Baseline Exercise <i>Operating: (\$13.9m)</i>
<p>Total New Spending Initiatives</p> <p>Operating: \$0.8m, Capital: \$13.8m</p>	<p>Total Savings and Revenue Initiatives</p> <p>Operating: (\$33.0m), Capital: (\$2.2m)</p>
<p>Net Total: Operating: (\$32.2m), Capital: \$11.6m</p>	

* denotes time-limited funding