

# 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 April 2024

Hon Nicole McKee  
Minister for Courts  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6012

Dear Nicole

Thank you for your recent March Baseline Update submission for Vote Courts. I agree with the following matters that my officials have identified and drawn to my attention with the baseline update proposed for this Vote:

### ***Correction of Previous Vote Change***

Since your submission to me, our officials have identified an additional adjustment for inclusion in this update related to the *District Courts Services* category of the *Courts, Tribunal and Other Authorities Services, including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services* MCA. The 31 July 2023 tagged contingency drawdown for the Te Au Reka programme was agreed for \$4.559 million in 2023/24 but erroneously entered as \$4.599 million. Our officials will amend this through an update on CFISnet.

All other aspects of your baseline update are agreed.

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.

### ***Budget 2024 decisions***

I am pleased to confirm the decisions made as part of Budget 2024 as attached to this letter. I note that proposals to increase civil court and tribunal fee revenue are subject to Cabinet agreement. 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 18 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**

