

The Treasury

Budget 2024 Information Release

September 2024

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- The Treasury website from later in 2024 at: <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/budget-2024-information-release>

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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16 April 2024

Hon Brooke van Velden
Minister of Internal Affairs
Parliament Buildings

Dear Brooke

Budget 2024 decisions – Vote Internal Affairs

Following our discussions over the past weeks, this letter confirms the decisions made as part of Budget 2024, including the increase in funding for Implementing Local Water Done Well, which was agreed with Minister Brown. 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 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 'Hon Willis', with a stylized flourish.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance

Cc Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services
Rt Hon Winston Peters, Minister for Racing
Hon Simeon Brown, Minister of Local Government
Hon Judith Collins, Minister for Digitising Government
Hon Melissa Lee, Minister for Ethnic Communities
Hon Louise Upston, Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector
Paul James, Secretary for Internal Affairs / Chief Executive of Department of Internal Affairs

Vote Internal Affairs (excluding the Ministry for Ethnic Communities)

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>Cost Pressures and Capital Cost Escalations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil <p>Government Policy Commitments Total Operating: (\$13.7m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID 15470: Independent inquiry into how the COVID-19 pandemic was handled in New Zealand* <i>Operating \$3.5m</i> • ID 15472: Implementing Local Water Done Well* <i>Operating \$10.2m</i> | <p>Baseline Savings Total Operating: (\$27.6m), Total Capital: (\$8.5m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID 15458: Baseline Savings: workforce and other cost reductions – shared services functions <i>Operating (\$8.5m)</i> • ID 15459: Baseline Savings: Workforce and other cost reductions – National Library of New Zealand and Archives New Zealand <i>Operating (\$4.4m)</i> • ID 15460: Baseline Savings: Civil Registration Systems Replacement – Return of Funding <i>Operating (\$3.9m)</i> • ID 15461: Baseline Savings: workforce and other cost reductions – Policy and Regulatory functions <i>Operating (\$2.9m)</i> • ID 15462: Baseline Savings: alternative funding options and efficiency savings – Digitising Government <i>Operating (\$2.3m), Capital (\$8.5m)</i> • ID 15463: Baseline Savings: Fire and Emergency New Zealand – Reduction in Public Good Funding <i>Operating (\$2.0m)</i> • ID 15464: Baseline Savings: return of excess funds for the operation and maintenance of Chatham Islands Wharves <i>Operating (\$1.5m)</i> • ID 15465: Baseline Savings: Smartstart and Smith-Traynor Fraud |

| New Spending | Savings and Revenue |
|---|--|
| | <p>Response – return of funding <i>Operating (\$1.4m)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID 15467: Baseline Savings: Reduction in grant funding for the Aotearoa Reorua (bilingual towns and cities) programme <i>Operating (\$0.7m)</i> <p>Targeted Policy Savings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID 15471: Savings from the repeal of the Three Waters programme <i>Operating (\$72.3m), Total Capital (\$10.1m)</i> |
| <p>Total New Spending Initiatives Operating \$13.7m, Capital -</p> | <p>Total Savings and Revenue Initiatives Operating (\$99.8m), Capital (\$18.6m)</p> |
| <p>Net Total: Operating (\$86.1m), Capital (\$18.6m)</p> | |

*Denotes no outyears funding (time-limited).