

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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2 April 2024

Hon Andrew Bayly
Minister of Statistics
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON 6012

Dear Andrew

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

Table 2 change reflects incorrect final year of funding

Table 2 reflects the final year of funding for the fiscally neutral adjustment in the *Delivery of Population and Social Statistics MYA* to be ongoing. This is incorrect. The final year of funding for this fiscally neutral adjustment should be 2028/29. My officials have directed Statistics New Zealand to update Table 2 to reflect the correct final year of funding.

Table 2 change reflects incorrect revenue source

My officials have also identified a need to correct the revenue source for the fiscally neutral adjustment in the *Official Statistics MCA* from Revenue Department to Revenue Crown. My officials have directed Statistics New Zealand to update Table 2 to reflect that correction.

Amendment to scope statement of the Delivery of population and social statistics MYA

My officials have identified a need to remove legislation from the scope statement of the 5-year *Delivery of population and social statistics MYA* requested for establishment from 1 July 2024. My officials have worked with Statistics New Zealand to agree on an amended scope statement for this appropriation and this is outlined in the table below. I agree to your request to establish a multi-year appropriation from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029 for census activities, including the proposed amendment to the scope statement below.

Vote	Appropriation Minister	Appropriation Administrator	Title	Type	Scope
Statistics	Minister of Statistics	Statistics New Zealand	Delivery of population and social statistics	Departmental Output Expenses	This appropriation is limited to the delivery of population and social statistics in accordance with the requirement for the delivery of a census in line with New Zealand and international obligations

All other aspects of your baseline update are agreed.

Budget 2024 decisions

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 blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis', is positioned above the typed name.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance

