

# The Treasury

## Budget 2024 Information Release

### September 2024

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- [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
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- [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

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Reference: T2024/639

Date: 15 March 2024

To: Minister of Finance (Hon Nicola Willis)

Deadline: None  
(if any)

## **Aide Memoire: Budget 2024 Bilateral Meetings for the Week starting 18 March**

This Aide Memoire provides you with information to support you in your bilateral meetings with the following portfolios and Ministers for the week of 18 March.

- **5:15pm – 5:45pm Monday 18 March** – Vote Environment – Hon Penny Simmonds, Hon Simon Watts and Hon Chris Bishop
- **8:30pm – 9pm Monday 18 March** – Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment – Hon David Seymour
- **5pm – 5:30pm Tuesday 19 March** – Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education – Hon Erica Stanford and Hon Penny Simmonds
- **8pm – 8:30pm Tuesday 19 March** – Justice Cluster – Hon Judith Collins, Hon Mark Mitchell, Hon Paul Goldsmith and Hon Nicole McKee
- **12pm – 12:30pm Wednesday 20 March** – Vote Housing and Urban Development – Hon Chris Bishop
- **3:30pm – 4:00pm Wednesday 20 March** – Ministry for Primary Industries – Hon Todd McClay
- **7pm – 7:30pm Wednesday 20 March** – Vote Defence – Hon Judith Collins
- **7:45pm – 8:30pm Wednesday 20 March** – Vote Social Development (including Whaikaha) – Hon Louise Upston and Hon Penny Simmonds (from 8:15pm)
- **3:15pm – 3:45pm Thursday 21 March** – Vote Foreign Affairs – Rt Hon Winston Peters

Attached to this Aide Memoire are briefings and the Budget 2024 submission letter for each bilateral/multilateral meeting, excluding Vote Housing and Urban Development as we are not aware that a letter has been submitted. We note that the bilateral briefing for Vote Education will be provided in a separate Treasury Report, given specific decisions are being sought from you.

- **Annex A:** Budget 2024 Bilateral: Hon Penny Simmonds, Hon Simon Watts and Hon Chris Bishop – Vote Environment, Climate Change and Resource Management Reform
- **Annex B:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Environment – Minister Simmonds
- **Annex C:** Budget 2024 Bilateral: Hon David Seymour - MBIE
- **Annex D:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – MBIE – Minister Seymour
- **Annex E:** Budget 2024 Multilateral: Hon Judith Collins, Hon Mark Mitchell, Hon Paul Goldsmith and Hon Nicole McKee – Justice Cluster
- **Annex F:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Attorney General and PCO – Minister Collins
- **Annex G:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Justice Cluster – Minister Goldsmith
- **Annex H:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Corrections – Minister Mitchell
- **Annex I:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Justice – Minister Goldsmith
- **Annex J:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Police – Minister Mitchell
- **Annex K:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote SFO – Minister Mitchell
- **Annex L:** Budget 2024 Multilateral: Hon Chris Bishop and Hon Tama Potaka – Vote Housing and Urban Development
- **Annex M:** Vote Housing Overview
- **Annex N:** Budget 2024 Bilateral: Hon Todd McClay – Ministry for Primary Industries
- **Annex O:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Ministry for Primary Industries – Minister McClay
- **Annex P:** Budget 2024 Bilateral: Hon Judith Collins – Vote Defence and Defence Force
- **Annex Q:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Defence – Minister Collins
- **Annex R:** Budget 2024 Multilateral: Hon Louise Upston and Hon Penny Simmonds – Vote Social Development (including Whaikaha)
- **Annex S:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Social Development – Minister Upston
- **Annex T:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Whaikaha – Minister Simmonds
- **Annex U:** Budget 2024 Bilateral: Rt Hon Winston Peters – Vote Foreign Affairs
- **Annex V:** Budget 2024 Baseline Savings Letter – Vote Foreign Affairs – Minister Peters

- **Annex W:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Tertiary Education – Minister Simmonds
- **Annex X:** Budget 2024 Submission Letter – Vote Education – Minister Stanford

The attached Annexes provide you with a proposed agenda, suggested talking points, background on the Vote's Budget package, an Annex of the portfolio's proposed Budget 2024 package as at BM2 and the agency's Budget submission letters.

***Bilateral Meetings present you with the opportunity to discuss potential points of contention with the draft Budget 2024 package***

We had provided you with a draft Budget 2024 package as part of material to support discussion with Budget Ministers at BM2 held on Tuesday 12 March. The draft Budget 2024 package was \$640 million over the operating allowance on average per annum over the forecast period. Bringing the Budget 2024 package back within allowances will require significant further savings and reprioritisation, and difficult trade-offs being made across the overall package.

The attached briefings provide you with a summary of the vote's Budget 2024 package and incorporates your feedback on savings initiatives. The briefings also provide you with suggested talking points to discuss with the relevant portfolio Minister on significant initiatives and further savings options. However, we have not been able to incorporate all of your comments into the annexes contained within the briefing given the time constraints.

***The outcomes of bilateral meetings are likely to be important ahead of BM3 where we suggest you make substantive package decisions***

Budget Ministers 3, scheduled for Monday 25 March, is where we recommend Budget Ministers further iterate the Budget package and approve substantive decisions to focus discussions on a limited set of outstanding decisions at BM4. To enable decisions at BM3, we recommend that you focus your bilateral meetings on the portfolio's draft package and seek agreement on specific actions on new spending and further savings within the portfolio. This will help you further progress the Budget 2024 package and keep it within the operating allowance.

To ensure that the actions and decisions from the bilateral meetings are reflected in BM3, we will prepare a write-up of agreed actions and next steps to your office to be provided to the portfolio Minister's office. We can incorporate confirmed changes by **COP Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** in to the BM3 package. For the Foreign Affairs bilateral meeting being held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, we will only be able to incorporate immediate changes to the package but will not be able to incorporate any actions that require further work. We can incorporate any outstanding changes to the Budget package after 20<sup>th</sup> March in time for decisions at BM4.

## Budget 2024 Timelines

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
<b>March</b>				
4	5	6	7	8
Fiscal strategy advice to Minister of Finance <b>Budget Ministers 1.5</b> - discussion on savings and status of package	Proposed Budget package and draft BM 2 materials to the Minister of Finance <u>Bilaterals (Hon Potaka)</u>	Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance		Send BM 2 materials to Budget Ministers Budget bilateral briefings to the Minister of Finance
11	12	13	14	15
<u>Bilaterals</u> (Revenue, Transport and Health)	<b>Budget Ministers 2</b> - consideration of draft Budget package and early Budget decisions	Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance	Lodge Cabinet paper for approval for any early Budget decisions <u>required</u>	
18	19	20	21	22
<u>Bilaterals</u> (MBIE and Environment) Cabinet approves early Budget decisions Draft BM 3 materials to the Minister of Finance	<u>Bilaterals</u> (Education (including Tertiary Education) and Justice Cluster)	<u>Bilaterals</u> (Defence, Housing and MPI) Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance	<u>Bilaterals</u> (Social Development (including <u>Whaikaha</u> ) and Foreign Affairs) Advice to the Minister of Finance on preliminary fiscal forecasts	Send BM 3 materials to Budget Ministers
25	26	27	28	29
<b>Budget Ministers 3</b> - Substantive Budget package decisions		Budget Policy Statement <u>released</u> Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance	Draft BM 4 materials to the Minister of Finance	Good Friday
<b>April</b>				
1	2	3	4	5
Easter Monday		Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance		Send BM 4 materials to Budget Ministers
8	9	10	11	12
<b>Budget Ministers 4</b> - Outstanding Budget package decisions		Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance <b>Budget Ministers 5</b> - Outstanding package decisions (if required)		
15	16	17	18	19
Advice to the Minister of Finance on final economic and tax forecasts		Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance		
22	23	24	25	26
		Budget matters meeting with Minister of Finance	Anzac Day	Lodge final Budget 2024 package Cabinet paper
29	30	1	2	3

Kevin Cho, Analyst, Budget <sup>[39]</sup>

Keiran Kennedy, Manager, Welfare & Oranga Tamariki, Budget <sup>[35]</sup>