

The Treasury

Budget 2026 Information Release

September 2026

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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
- [2] 6(b)(i) - to avoid prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government
- [4] 6(c) - to avoid prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial
- [7] 6(e)(ii) - to prevent serious damage to the economy of New Zealand by disclosing prematurely decisions to change or continue government economic or financial policies relating to the regulation of banking or credit
- [12] 7(a)(i) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the self-governing State of the Cook Islands
- [13] 7(a)(ii) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the self-governing State of Niue
- [14] 7(a)(iii) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of Tokelau
- [15] 7(a)(iv) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the Ross Dependency
- [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
- [26] 9(2)(ba)(i) - 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 to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied
- [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
- [41] 18(d) - information requested is or will soon be publicly available

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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Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Budget 2026 Package: Vote Social Investment (Technical Initiatives)

On 7 May 2026, Cabinet:

Appropriation Administrator: Social Investment Agency

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2026 Budget package, as listed in the summary table below and detailed in the attached initiative documents:

Summary of technical initiatives:

Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
17412	Social Investment Platform Build - Rephasing	-	-	-	-	-
17399	Social Investment Fund - Rephasing	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operating		-	-	-	-	-

Diana Hawker
Acting Secretary of the Cabinet

Vote: Social Investment

Appropriation Administrator: Social Investment Agency

Title: Social Investment Platform Build - Rephasing

Description: This initiative seeks an in-principle transfer to meet the requirements for the external vendor completing the Social Investment Fund platform build and security requirements, and to support the contract analysis tool work, which has been delayed due to security requirements.

Additional Recommendation

- 2 **authorised** the Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Chris Bishop) and the Minister for Social Investment jointly to transfer up to \$0.200 million in the '*Supporting Implementation of a Social Investment Approach*' appropriation from 2025/26 to 2026/27, following completion of the Social Investment Agency's 2025/26 audited financial statements, with no impact on the operating balance and/or net core Crown debt across the forecast period;

Vote: Social Investment

Appropriation Administrator: Social Investment Agency

Title: Social Investment Fund - Rephasing

Description: This initiative seeks an in-principle transfer to meet contractual commitments for the Social Investment Fund. Provider readiness and establishment timeframes, such as hiring staff and ensuring data security, have caused unavoidable delays in distributing funds.

Additional Recommendation

- 3 **authorised** the Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Chris Bishop) and the Minister for Social Investment jointly to transfer up to \$10.500 million in the '*Delivering Social Investment Outcomes*' Multi-Category Appropriation's '*Delivering Social Investment Initiatives for Priority Cohorts*' category from 2025/26 to between 2026/27 and 2028/29, following completion of the Social Investment Agency's 2025/26 audited financial statements, with no impact on the operating balance and/or net core Crown debt across the forecast period.