

The Treasury

Budget 2026 Information Release

September 2026

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- The Budget website from September 2026 to May 2027 only at: <https://budget.govt.nz/information-release/2026>, and on
- The Treasury website from later in 2026 at: <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/budgets/budget-2026-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
- [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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Vote Māori Development and Whanau Ora – Various initiatives for Budget 2026

Vote	Māori Development and Whanau Ora
Track	Spending
Description	Hon Potaka has written to you requesting an invitation for Budget 2026 for the following initiatives in Vote Māori Development: ^[33] Transitioning the Māori media sector to a digital future to support te reo Māori revitalisation (time-limited) – Support the Māori media sector to transition to a digital future, ensuring sector can develop talent, contribute to economic growth, and deliver better outcomes for te reo Māori ^[33] operating per annum) Te Māori Tū – Forging new trade relationships – This initiative provides time-limited seed funding to deliver a co-invested international programme of trade events. (\$1.5 million operating per annum)
Operating Average Per Annum (\$m)	Up to ^[33] operating per annum depending on decisions
Total Capital (\$m)	Nil
Treasury advice	We do not recommend these initiatives are invited into Budget 2026. As noted in the letter, the initiatives outlined by Hon Potaka do not meet the criteria for invitation into Budget 2026 as they are not coalition commitments or funding required to maintain critical frontline services. You have previously agreed to consider a different option to fund the Te Māori Tū – forging new trade relationships initiative. This option would be rescoping the initiative to have a stronger focus on domestic events for it to be eligible for contestable funds without additional Budget funding [T2025/2482 refers]. We note that Whānau Ora has not been included in the eligible base for the baseline reduction.
Conditions on Invitation	N/A
MoF Decision	1. Indicate whether you wish to invite the following initiatives into Budget 2026; ^[33] <i>Invite / Do not invite (Treasury recommended)</i>

- [33]

Invite / Do not invite (Treasury recommended)

- Transitioning the Māori media sector to a digital future to support te reo Māori revitalisation (time-limited)

Invite / Do not invite (Treasury recommended)

- Te Māori Tū – Forging new trade relationships

Invite / Do not invite (Treasury recommended)