

The Treasury

Budget 2016 Information Release

Release Document July 2016

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[1]	to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government	6(a)
[4]	to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial	6(c)
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[33]	to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials	9(2)(f)(iv)
[34]	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions	9(2)(g)(i)
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[38]	to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice	9(2)(j)
[39]	to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	9(2)(k)
[s18(c)(i)]	that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment	
[40]	Not in scope	

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Official Information 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).

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) and section 18 of the Official Information Act.



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.

2016 Budget Package: Vote Justice

On 25 April 2016, Cabinet:

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2016 Budget package, as listed in the summary below and detailed in the attached initiative documents;

Summary of initiatives included in the attached initiative documents:

Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
9042	Investing in Justice	-	1.476	0.882	0.424	0.089
9033	Independent Police Conduct Authority: Funding for Increasing Volumes and New Prevention Initiatives	-	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
9031	Restorative Justice – Increased Utilisation	-	4.049	4.049	4.049	4.049
9029	Investing in the Public Defence Service	-	2.842	3.500	3.500	3.500
9027	Community Law Centres	-	0.523	1.316	1.221	1.221
9026	Civil Legal Aid: Increasing Eligibility	-	1.899	3.804	5.753	5.753
9024	2017 General Election	-	4.642	19.948	-	-
9023	Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct	-	21.224	18.583	-	-
9021	Legal Aid in Criminal Cases - Managing Increasing Costs and Demand	20.000	16.757	10.822	13.651	13.247
Total Operating		20.000	53.712	63.204	28.898	28.159

- 2 **agreed** to establish new appropriations where required to implement these initiatives, as described in the attached initiative documents;

- 3 **approved** the additional recommendations to give effect to the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 4 **approved** changes to appropriations and the capital injection to the administering department to implement the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 5 **agreed** that the proposed change to appropriations for 2015/16 above be included in the 2015/16 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply;
- 6 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Appropriation Minister to approve jointly any technical adjustments to baselines necessary to remove any errors or inconsistencies identified while finalising the 2015/16 Supplementary Estimates, the 2016/17 Estimates and the fiscal forecasts;
- 7 **authorised** the chief executives of departments that monitor Crown entities directly affected by decisions in this minute to inform the chair and/or chief executive of a Crown entity, on a budget-in-confidence-until-budget-day basis, of decisions that directly affect that Crown entity for the purpose of planning and preparation of their Statement of Intent;
- 8 **noted** that all communications relating to the 2016 Budget are co-ordinated by a Budget communications committee, and that any requests for early announcement will need to have both the written approval of the Minister of Finance and sign-off from the Prime Minister's office;
- 9 **agreed** that the initiatives in the following tables be set aside as contingency items, that corresponding funding for them be set aside in tagged contingencies;

Operating Contingency

Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
[33]	-	[33]			
Dunedin Courthouse – Earthquake Strengthening and Refurbishment	-				

Capital Contingency

Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Dunedin Courthouse – Earthquake Strengthening and Refurbishment	-	[38]	-	-	-

- 10 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Justice to draw down from the tagged contingencies above.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Vote: Justice

Title: Investing in Justice

Description: This funding will enable the Ministry of Justice to develop a programme of work to achieve more efficient and effective services. The work programme will focus on more effective ways of working – such as streamlining processes and implementing operational excellence models.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	1.476	0.882	0.424	0.089
Total	-	1.476	0.882	0.424	0.089

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expense:					
Administration of Legal Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	1.476	0.882	0.424	0.089
Total Operating	-	1.476	0.882	0.424	0.089

Initiative No: 9033

Vote: Justice

Title: Independent Police Conduct Authority: Funding for Increasing Volumes and New Prevention Initiatives

Description: This funding will enable the Independent Police Conduct Authority to fulfil its statutory function of receiving and investigating complaints against the Police, to enable the Authority to undertake more preventive work with Police, and to fulfil its statutory obligations as a National Preventive Mechanism.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
Total	-	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Justice Advocacy, Advice and Promotion Services	-	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
Total Operating	-	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300

Initiative No: 9031

Vote: Justice

Title: Restorative Justice – Increased Utilisation

Description: This funding will enable restorative justice programmes to meet future demands for their services. Restorative justice is an important part of reducing crime, victimisation and harm.

Appropriation Changes

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	4.049	4.049	4.049	4.049
Total	-	4.049	4.049	4.049	4.049

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Crime Prevention and Community Safety Programmes	-	4.049	4.049	4.049	4.049
Total Operating	-	4.049	4.049	4.049	4.049

Initiative No: 9029

Vote: Justice

Title: Investing in the Public Defence Service

Description: This funding will ensure that investment in the Public Defence Service is sustainable and meets its allocated share of criminal legal aid cases nationally. The number of criminal legal aid cases is rising and is expected to increase further from 2016/17.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	2.842	3.500	3.500	3.500
Total	-	2.842	3.500	3.500	3.500

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expense:					
Public Defence Service (funded by revenue Crown)	-	2.842	3.500	3.500	3.500
Total Operating	-	2.842	3.500	3.500	3.500

Vote: Justice

Title: Community Law Centres

Description: This funding enables Community Law Centres to continue to provide access to justice services to people who lack sufficient means to pay for legal services independently.

Appropriation Changes

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	0.523	1.316	1.221	1.221
Total	-	0.523	1.316	1.221	1.221

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Community Law Centres	-	0.523	1.316	1.221	1.221
Total Operating	-	0.523	1.316	1.221	1.221

Vote: Justice

Title: Civil Legal Aid: Increasing Eligibility

Description: This funding increases the eligibility criteria for legal aid in civil cases so that more New Zealanders on low incomes can have the assistance of a lawyer in civil court. The funding is phased in gradually from the 2016/17 year. From 2018/19, the funding is expected to deliver an estimated 2700 additional legal aid grants per year.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	1.899	3.804	5.753	5.753
Total	-	1.899	3.804	5.753	5.753

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Legal Aid	-	1.899	3.804	5.753	5.753
Total Operating	-	1.899	3.804	5.753	5.753

Vote: Justice

Title: 2017 General Election

Description: This funding will enable the Electoral Commission to meet its statutory objectives and fully discharge its legislative mandate to manage the New Zealand Electoral system and conduct a General Election in 2017.

Appropriation Changes

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	4.642	19.948	-	-
Total	-	4.642	19.948	-	-

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Electoral Services	-	4.642	19.948	-	-
Total Operating	-	4.642	19.948	-	-

Initiative No: 9023

Vote: Justice

Title: Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct

Description: This funding will cover the first two years of operating costs of the multi-agency Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct.

New Appropriation Approval

Name	Period	Type	Category Name	Scope
Justice and Emergency Agencies Property and Shared Services	Annual	Departmental Output Expense	N/A	This appropriation is limited to the provision of property and shared services to other agencies in Christchurch.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	21.224	18.583	-	-
No Impact	-	1.704	10.232	-	-
Total	-	22.928	28.815	-	-

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expense:					
Justice and Emergency Agencies Property and Shared Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	21.224	18.583	-	-
Justice and Emergency Agencies Property and Shared Services (funded by revenue department)	-	0.418	2.507	-	-
Justice and Emergency Agencies Property and Shared Services (funded by revenue other)	-	1.286	7.725	-	-
Total Operating	-	22.928	28.815	-	-

Additional recommendations

- 11 **invited** the Minister of Justice to report to the Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee by October 2017 on the *Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precincts Initiative* with a progress operational implementation update;

Initiative No: 9023

- 12 **noted** this report back would revisit the costing assumptions as agreed through Budget 2016 and explore the need to rephase contingency operating expenditure following final lease agreements;
- 13 **agreed** that the expiry date for the tagged operating contingency established during Budget 2013 [CAB Min (13) 12/6(4)] be extended to 1 May 2017.

Initiative No: 9021

Vote: Justice

Title: Legal Aid in Criminal Cases - Managing Increasing Costs and Demand

Description: This funding will enable legal aid services to meet rising demand and increasing costs of representation for New Zealanders who require legal aid in criminal cases.

Appropriation Changes

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	20.000	16.757	10.822	13.651	13.247
Total	20.000	16.757	10.822	13.651	13.247

	Sm - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Legal Aid	20.000	16.757	10.822	13.651	13.247
Total Operating	20.000	16.757	10.822	13.651	13.247