

VOTE

*Parliamentary
Counsel*

Parliamentary Counsel

Overview

Appropriations sought for Vote Parliamentary Counsel in 2001/02 total \$10.151 million. This is intended to be applied as follows:

- \$5,944,000 (58.6% of the Vote) on Law Drafting Services.
- \$3,576,000 (35.2% of the Vote) on Compilation of Reprinted Legislation and of Tables and Indexes of Legislation.
- \$631,000 (6.2% of the Vote) on Publication and Sale of Legislation.

Details of how the appropriations are to be applied appear in Parts B1 and C of this Vote.

Parliamentary Counsel

VOTE MINISTER: Attorney-General

ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT: Parliamentary Counsel Office

The Attorney-General is the Responsible Minister for the Parliamentary Counsel Office

Part A - Statement of Objectives and Trends

Part A1 - Objectives for Vote Parliamentary Counsel

Outcomes

The appropriations sought for Vote Parliamentary Counsel will support the Government's objectives:

- by enabling the drafting of changes in the law that are necessary to implement Government policies
- by making the law accessible to the public in an accurate and authoritative form.

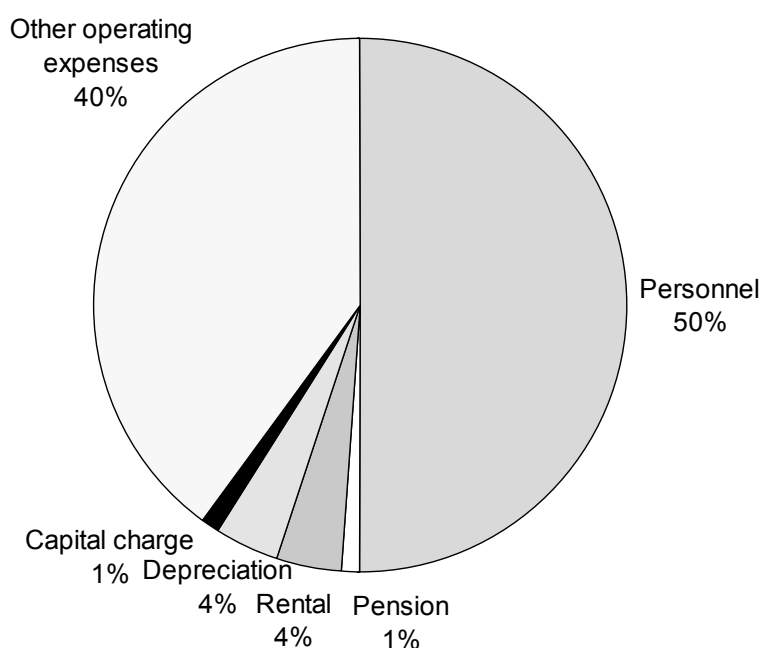
To this end the appropriations will purchase the following activities:

- Drafting Government Bills (including amendments) and Statutory Regulations, supervising the printing of Bills before introduction to Parliament and of regulations before they are made, examining and reporting on local Bills and private Bills and drafting amendments to them.
- Compiling for printing and publication reprints of Acts and Statutory Regulations, Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force, and interim indexes to Statutory Regulations, and supervising their printing up to and including the stage at which they are approved for publication.
- Arranging the printing, publication, and sale of Acts and Statutory Regulations (including reprints), annual bound volumes of Acts and Statutory Regulations, bound volumes of reprints, Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force, and interim indexes to Statutory Regulations.

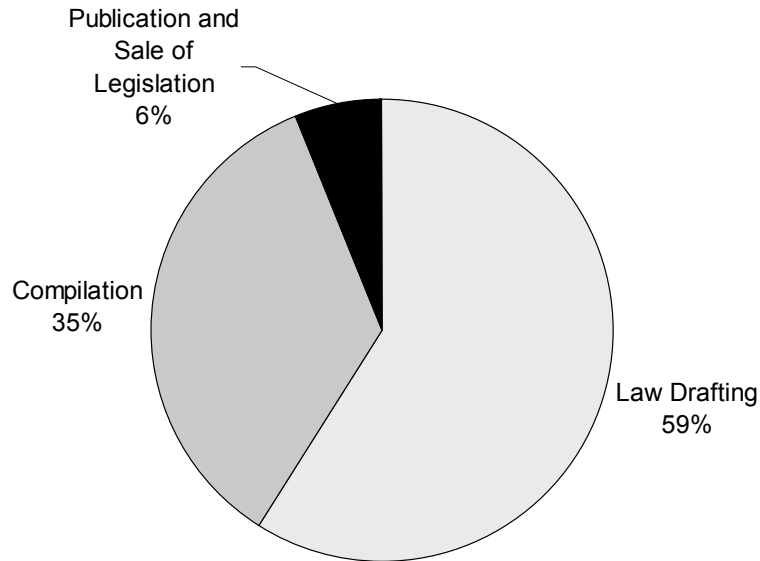
Output Classes	Related Outcomes
<p><u>D1 - Law Drafting Services</u></p> <p>Drafting Government Bills (including amendments) and Statutory Regulations.</p> <p>Supervising the printing of Government Bills and draft Statutory Regulations.</p> <p>Examining and reporting on local Bills and private Bills and drafting amendments to them.</p>	<p>Legislation that gives effect to the policies of the Government requiring changes in the law, and that is clearly drafted.</p>

Output Classes	Related Outcomes
<p><u>D2 – Compilation of Reprinted Legislation and of Tables and Indexes of Legislation</u></p> <p>Compiling for printing and publication reprints of Acts and reprints of Statutory Regulations, Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force, and interim indexes to Statutory Regulations.</p> <p>Supervising the printing of reprints, tables and indexes up to and including the stage at which they are approved for publication.</p>	<p>Legislation that is accessible to the public in an accurate and authoritative form.</p>
<p><u>D3 – Publication and Sale of Legislation</u></p> <p>This output class involves arranging the printing, publication, and sale of Acts and Statutory Regulations, and covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts of Parliament (including reprinted Acts of Parliament) • Statutory Regulations (including reprinted Statutory Regulations) • Annual bound volumes of Acts • Annual bound volumes of Statutory Regulations • Bound volumes of Reprinted Statutes of New Zealand • Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force • Interim indexes to Statutory Regulations. 	<p>Legislation that is available to the public in printed form.</p>

Figure 1 - Vote Parliamentary Counsel: Expenses



Source: Parliamentary Counsel Office

Figure 2 - Vote Parliamentary Counsel: Outputs

Source: Parliamentary Counsel Office

Part A2 - Trends in Vote Parliamentary Counsel

The appropriation for Vote Parliamentary Counsel, as shown in the trends table, has increased since 1995.

This has been in response to the need to strengthen the Office, to meet the costs associated with employing additional drafters and other staff, and to meet the cost of renting accommodation outside Parliament Buildings. Appropriations for 1995/96 and 1996/97 were based on the Office having 15 drafters plus support staff. Appropriations since 1997 have enabled the Office to continue to increase its resources to the point where it now has 23 drafters and 3 consultant drafters, plus support staff.

Key tools in the development of the Office continue to be the strategic plan, completed in 1997, and the annual business plan. These include a Mission Statement, which sets out the Office's main aims; a Vision Statement, which sets out the objectives to which the Office is committed in seeking to achieve those aims; and strategies regarded as necessary to achieve those aims. The Strategic Result Areas in the Business Plan for 2000/01 are:

- Best Practice Legislative Drafting Services
- Ready Access to New Zealand Legislation
- Process and System Management
- Client Service and Relationship
- Capability Management.

The Business Plan for 2001/02 includes initiatives under each Strategic Result Area that are the priority projects for the year.

The 2 main benefits of strengthening the Office are:

- increased capacity to meet the drafting requirements of the Government
- improved accessibility of legislation.

The accessibility of legislation is being improved through initiatives that enhance the readability and comprehension of legislation, such as the adoption of clear drafting practices and the implementation of a new format for legislation.

In the 2001/02 year, a further step will be taken to improve the accessibility of legislation by implementing the project to Improve Public Access to Legislation. The increase in appropriation for the 2001/02 year provides funding for this work.

The aim of the project is to provide public access to up-to-date official legislation in both printed and electronic form. The project will improve public access to legislation by:

- making legislation available electronically and in printed form from a database owned and maintained by the Crown
- providing access to Acts and Statutory Regulations as soon as possible after they have been enacted and made
- providing access to legislation with amendments incorporated as soon as possible
- providing electronic access to Bills at key stages during their progress through the House
- providing electronic access to Bills, Acts, and Statutory Regulations free via the Internet, both as enacted and in up-to-date form with their amendments incorporated
- making it possible to see the effect of proposed amendments to existing legislation
- making it easier to see the effect of amendments to proposed legislation during its passage through the House.

The project is necessary to enable the Crown to fulfil its statutory responsibility to make legislation available to the public, both as enacted and in an up-to-date form with amendments incorporated.

The principal beneficiaries of this project will be:

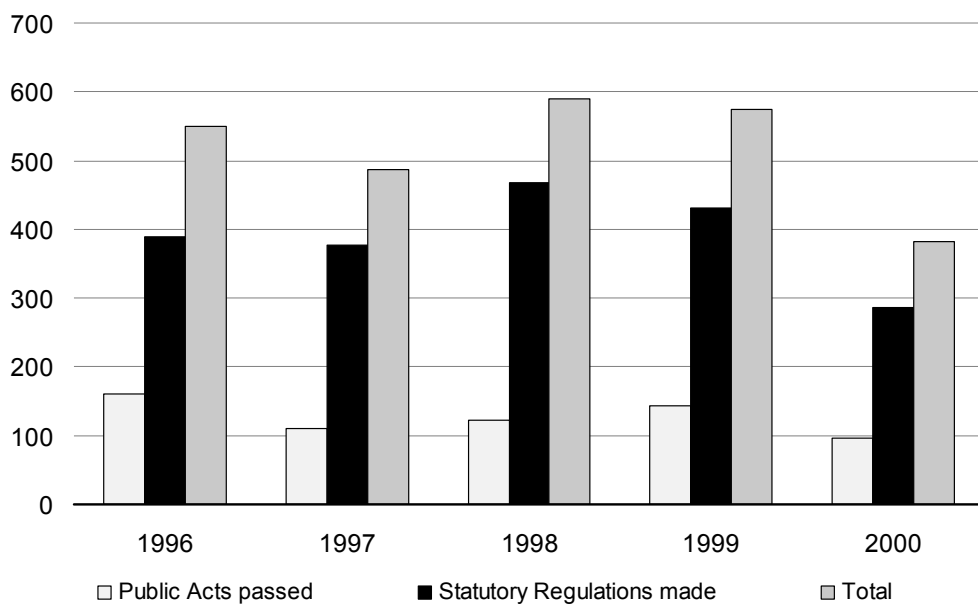
- individual members of the public
- community agencies, interest groups, and disabled users
- Members of Parliament and Ministers.

Key Current Issues for Vote Parliamentary Counsel

Key current issues for the 2001/02 year include:

- Maintaining and enhancing the drafting capability of the Parliamentary Counsel Office to better meet Government needs for legislation
- retaining experienced drafters and specialist support staff
- implementing the project to Improve Public Access to Legislation.

Figure 3 – Number of Public Acts passed and Statutory Regulations made 1996 to 2000



Source: Parliamentary Counsel Office

NOTE: General elections were held on 12 October 1996, and on 27 November 1999.

Trends in Vote Parliamentary Counsel - Summary of Appropriations and Crown Revenue

Types of Appropriation	2001/02 Appropriations to be Used														
	1996/97		1997/98		1998/99		1999/2000		2000/01		2001/02				
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Budget \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	By the Department Administering the Vote Annual \$000	Other \$000	For Non-Departmental Transactions Annual \$000	Other \$000	Total \$000
Operating Flows															
Classes of Outputs to be Supplied	3,857	4,681	5,020	5,762	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	10,151	-	-	-	10,151
Benefits and Other Unrequited Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Flows															
Capital Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purchase or Development of Capital Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Repayment of Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	3,857	4,681	5,082	5,762	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	7,412	10,151	-	-	-	10,151
Total Crown Revenue and Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-

Part B - Statement of Appropriations

Part B1 - Details of 2001/02 Appropriations

Appropriations	2000/01			2001/02		Description of 2001/02 Appropriations	
	Vote		Estimated Actual	Vote			
	Annual \$000	Other \$000		Annual \$000	Other \$000		
Departmental Output Classes (Mode B Gross)							
D1 Law Drafting Services	5,587	-	5,587	-	5,944	-	Drafting Government Bills (including amendments) and Statutory Regulations, supervising the printing of Bills before introduction into Parliament and of regulations before they are made, examining and reporting on local Bills and private Bills and drafting amendments to them.
D2 Compilation of Reprinted Legislation and of Tables and Indexes of Legislation	1,138	-	1,138	-	3,576	-	Compiling for printing and publication reprints of Acts and Statutory Regulations, Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force, and interim indexes to Statutory Regulations, and supervising their printing up to and including the stage at which they are approved for publication.
D3 Publication and Sale of Legislation	687	-	687	-	631	-	Arranging the printing, publication, and sale of Acts and Statutory Regulations (including reprints), annual bound volumes of Acts and Statutory Regulations, bound volumes of reprints, Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force, and interim indexes to Statutory Regulations.
Total Appropriations for Departmental Output Classes (Mode B Gross)	7,412	-	7,412	-	10,151	-	
Total Appropriations	7,412	-	7,412	-	10,151	-	

Part C - Explanation of Appropriations for Output Classes

Part C1 - Departmental Output Classes

For performance information, refer to the Departmental Forecast Report of the Parliamentary Counsel Office for the year ending 30 June 2002.

Output Class D1 - Law Drafting Services

Description

Under this output class, the Attorney-General will purchase from the Parliamentary Counsel Office a service that provides for:

- the drafting of Government Bills (including amendments to Government Bills) and of Statutory Regulations
- the supervision of the printing of Government Bills before their introduction, and of draft Statutory Regulations before their making
- the examining and reporting on local Bills and private Bills, and the drafting of amendments to them.

Outcomes

This output will contribute to the outcomes by ensuring that:

- Government Bills and Statutory Regulations are properly drafted and properly printed
- reports on the form and effect of local Bills and private Bills are prepared.

Output Class D2 - Compilation of Reprinted Legislation and of Tables and Indexes of Legislation

Description

Under this output class, the Attorney-General will purchase from the Parliamentary Counsel Office a service that provides for:

- the compiling for printing and publication of:
 - reprints of Acts and reprints of Statutory Regulations (with their amendments incorporated)
 - Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force
 - interim indexes to Statutory Regulations
 - the supervision of the printing of the reprints, tables and indexes up to and including the stage where they are approved for publication.

Outcomes

This output will contribute to the outcomes by ensuring the compilation and printing of:

- reprints of Acts and reprints of Statutory Regulations that are up to date and accurate
- Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force
- interim indexes to Statutory Regulations.

Output Class D3 - Publication and Sale of Legislation**Description**

Under this output class, the Attorney-General will purchase from the Parliamentary Counsel Office a service under which the Parliamentary Counsel Office will arrange for the printing, publication and sale of Acts after they have been assented to and of Statutory Regulations after they have been made. This covers:

- Acts of Parliament (including reprinted Acts of Parliament)
- Statutory Regulations (including reprinted Statutory Regulations)
- the annual bound volumes of Acts
- the annual bound volumes of Statutory Regulations
- the bound volumes of Reprinted Statutes of New Zealand
- Tables of New Zealand Acts and Ordinances and Statutory Regulations in Force
- interim indexes to Statutory Regulations.

Outcomes

This output will contribute to the outcomes by ensuring the printing, publication and sale in an accurate and timely fashion of the publications listed in the description of this output.

Part E - Explanation of Appropriations for Capital Flows

Part E1 - Capital Contributions

There is no appropriation for Part E1.

Net Worth of Entities Owned

Statement of Estimated and Forecast Net Worth

	Balance Date	Estimated Net Worth 2001 \$ million	Forecast Net Worth 2002 \$ million
Parliamentary Counsel Office	30 June	0.568	0.568