

Vote Communications

MINISTER(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROPRIATIONS: Minister for Communications and Information Technology (M14)

ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT: Ministry of Economic Development

MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Minister for Economic Development

Overview of the Vote

The Minister for Communications and Information Technology is responsible for appropriations in the Vote for the 2010/11 financial year covering the following:

- a total of just over \$13.500 million for the management of New Zealand's radio spectrum and policy advice on New Zealand's communications sector
- a total of just under \$8 million for Commerce Commission costs to enforce regulated telecommunications services and undertake specific telecommunications regulatory functions
- a total of just under \$2.400 million for international membership fees, capital investments in subsidised equipment for hearing and speech impaired people and support and administration costs related to enabling access to the telecommunications relay service, and
- a total of just over \$248 million capital investment in ultrafast broadband infrastructure.

Details of these appropriations are set out in Parts 2-6 for Vote Communications in the *Information Supporting the Estimates of Appropriations*.

Details of Appropriations

Details of Annual and Permanent Appropriations

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2009/10		2010/11
	Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Departmental Output Expenses			
Management and Enforcement of the Radiocommunications Act 1989 (M14)	9,862	9,097	9,877
Management of the radio spectrum, including technical arrangements for the allocation of spectrum, representation of New Zealand's international radio spectrum interests, and management of spectrum sales including costs associated with financial assistance for transition of radio licences when a management right is created or spectrum is allocated to a different use.			
Policy Advice - Communications (M14)	6,222	5,713	3,653
This appropriation is limited to the following communications and ICT related issues; policy advice and ministerial servicing in relation to information technology, New Zealand's digital capability, telecommunications markets and regulation, broadband investment, postal services, and the allocation and management of the radio spectrum, and participation in international fora and trade agreements as this applies to New Zealand's ICT interests.			
Total Departmental Output Expenses	16,084	14,810	13,530
Non-Departmental Output Expenses			
Administrative Support for Telecommunications Relay Equipment and Services (M14)	1,657	1,347	1,169
This appropriation is limited to funding expenditure for administering contracts procuring the supply of telecommunications relay services textphones and other equipment for user access to relay service platforms (including video) and the cost for administering rental of relay user equipment and depreciating this equipment, together with sponsoring New Zealand Sign Language interpreter scholarships and the purchase of ancillary services to support the availability and uptake of relay services.			
Enforcement of Telecommunications Sector Regulation (M14)	7,790	6,914	7,790
The regulation and monitoring of telecommunication services in accordance with the Telecommunications Act 2001.			
Total Non-Departmental Output Expenses	9,447	8,261	8,959
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
Contributions to International Telecommunications Organisations (M14)	930	890	930
The Crown's annual membership of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity and subscription to the International Telecommunications Union.			
Broadband Investment (Rural Supply) (M14)	48,000	-	-
This appropriation is limited to the provision of funding for grants or consumer subsidies relating to the deployment of broadband infrastructure in rural regions of New Zealand.			
Total Non-Departmental Other Expenses	48,930	890	930

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2009/10		2010/11
	Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Non-Departmental Capital Expenditure			
Acquisition of Textphone Equipment (M14) To purchase textphones after the establishment of a textphone pool for deaf, hearing impaired and speech impaired people.	300	-	300
Broadband Investment (Crown Company Capital Costs) (M14) This appropriation is limited to the establishment of and provision of ongoing investment funding for a Crown-owned investment company which will function as the vehicle for investing and managing the Government's broadband infrastructure commitment.	205,400	25,400	200,000
Broadband Investment (Schools) (M14) This appropriation is limited to making schools broadband ready, including providing schools with suitable internal networks to take advantage of fast or ultrafast broadband; meeting costs of the National Education Network trial; and programme and business case development.	-	-	48,310
Accelerating Broadband (M14) Development and implementation of mechanisms designed to accelerate investment in broadband infrastructure.	15,000	-	-
Total Non-Departmental Capital Expenditure	220,700	25,400	248,610
Total Annual and Permanent Appropriations	295,161	49,361	272,029