

**Vote Ministerial Services**

# Baseline Alignment Proposal

Version 1.0

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Submitted by:  
**Hon John Key**

## **Section 1: Alignment to Government Priorities**

Vote Ministerial Services provides the Government with advice and services to ensure that Executive Government is well supported. The priorities for the Vote are largely directed at improving the functioning of Executive government processes, but in 2011/12 will also include supporting the success of the Rugby World Cup 2011. The contributions of the Vote to the Government's priorities are:

### *Better public services*

A priority for this Vote is improved delivery of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) services to members of the Executive. This is a joint initiative between the Executive Government Support business group of the Department of Internal Affairs and the Parliamentary Service, and will contribute to the Government's objective for a public sector which is better-performing and more efficient. The goal is to provide a more consistent approach to ICT service delivery to the Executive and at the same time generate cost savings. The work will be funded within the current baselines of the output expense *Support Services to Members of the Executive*.

A second priority is to review the policies related to the ownership of ministerial accommodation. This will complete the rationalisation of ministerial accommodation commenced in 2009/10. The review will be resourced from within existing baselines, and is expected to generate efficiency and effectiveness gains.

### *Increasing New Zealand's productivity growth; Maintaining high levels of employment*

A successful 2011 Rugby World Cup tournament is an important Government priority. This includes maximising the wider benefits to New Zealand in terms of jobs and growth.

This Vote will contribute to the overall success of the Rugby World Cup event by managing a guest of government and state functions programme that will provide the Government with the opportunity for showcasing New Zealand to a wide range of overseas visitors ranging from Heads of State through to influential representatives of non-government organisations such as the International Rugby Board.

## **Section 2: Reprioritisation**

### **Funding implications**

Over the past 18 months the Department of Internal Affairs, which administers this Vote, has been actively seeking ways to work more productively. As a result, it has identified a number of areas in which efficiencies or savings have been realised, or have the potential to be so. Savings in a number of Votes were offered up in Budget 2009, and lower areas of work reprioritised with the agreement of the relevant Vote Ministers.

Areas of potential gain will continue to be explored on an ongoing basis, as part of a structured performance and productivity improvement programme ranging across the Department's functions. This proactive commitment to productivity improvement will ensure that the Department will continue to deliver its core services in an environment of static baselines, and has enabled it to respond to the current set of Ministerial priorities without seeking additional funding in Budget 2010.

The one exception is the Rugby World Cup 2011 which, due to the relative magnitude of the estimated cost compared to Vote baseline, is unable to be absorbed through productivity gains.

### **Rugby World Cup 2011**

A Ministerial priority for this Vote directly supports the Government's priority for a successful Rugby World Cup (RWC) 2011. The Vote's specific contribution will be to manage an ambitious guest of government and state functions programme on behalf of Ministers that will provide the Government with the opportunity for showcasing New Zealand to a wide range of overseas visitors coming to New Zealand in connection with the event.

The RWC visits programme is estimated to require up to \$12 million of additional funding for 2011/12 only. This is on top of the underlying projected visits programme of approximately \$4 million, which is likely to still be required in Rugby World Cup year. The RWC 2011 funding requirement represents approximately 300% of the current annual baseline for the related Appropriation "*Visits and Events Co-ordination*", and approximately 25% of the total Vote Ministerial Services.

The guest of government and state functions programme is part of a wider RWC 2011 initiative that involves a number of other agencies, including the Ministry of Economic Development, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Ministry of Tourism. The Department is working closely with these agencies to determine the full extent of RWC-related work programmes and associated funding implications. A whole-of-government approach to addressing funding implications for all agencies will be adopted, including consideration of the cost-offsetting effect of economy-wide benefits that will be generated through New Zealand's hosting of RWC 2011.

Should it not prove possible to identify sufficient funding through existing pan-government baselines, it will be necessary to seek additional funding through a joint bid for Budget 2011.

### Section 3: Summary of Financial Movements

#### Vote Ministerial Services

The baseline figures shown in the following table include departmental and non-departmental operating expenses only. These figures do not include Benefits and Other Unrequited Expenses operating appropriations.

	\$000	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Baseline (2009/10 FBU)		59,943	60,052	60,577	60,077	60,077
Share Allocation		-	-	-	-	-
Centralised Saving		-	-	-	-	-
Reprioritisation						
Total Reprioritisation		-	-	-	-	-
Transfers Outside Vote						
Total Transfers Outside Vote		-	-	-	-	-
Total Changes		-	-	-	-	-
Total Proposed Baseline		59,943	60,052	60,577	60,077	60,077