

The Treasury

Budget 2012 Information Release

Release Document

June 2012

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Key to sections of the Official Information Act 1982 under which information has been withheld.

Certain information in this document has been withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- [1] 6(a) - to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [2] 6(c) - to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial
- [3] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [4] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [5] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [6] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [7] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [8] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [9] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [10] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [11] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [12] 9(2)(ba)(i) - to prevent prejudice to 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.

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, an [4] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(b)(ii).

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

Hon Chris Tremain
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

Thank you for your Four Year Budget Plan and recent March Baseline Update submission for Vote Emergency Management.

Four Year Budget Plan

I consider that the Four Year Budget Plan prepared by Department of Internal Affairs for Vote Emergency Management is of sufficient quality that it will not be necessary for another Budget Plan to be submitted until Budget 2015, unless there are any significant changes arising from the internal change programmes within the Department of Internal Affairs or you determine another Four Year Budget Plan should be submitted.

March Baseline Update

I have examined your submission and approve your updated baselines for Votes Consumer Affairs.

I have identified two issues with the baseline updates proposed for Vote Emergency Management, as described in the appendix.

Yours sincerely



Hon Bill English
Minister of Finance

Appendix One: *Vote Emergency Management*

In-principle expense transfer to position the Department of Internal Affairs for efficiency savings from 1 July 2012

The proposal in the baseline update seeking an agreement in principle to transfer \$0.241 million from 2011/12 to 2012/13 in Vote Emergency Management to position the Department of Internal Affairs for efficiency savings from 1 July 2012 requires the reason for the delay in the expenditure pursuant to Cabinet Office Circular CO (11) 6.

Therefore, I would invite you to provide more detailed information on the delays, the timing and quantum of expected expenditure before the deadline specified in the annual Budget guidance (13 June). I would expect that you will have further information on these in-principle expense transfers closer to the year end, and will reconsider these requests at that time.

In-principle expense transfers to position the Department of Internal Affairs for the new appropriation structure from 1 July 2012

Officials have agreed that in order for the baselines in the current appropriation structure to transfer over into the new appropriation structure under a single Vote Internal Affairs, which take effect from 1 July 2012, an agreement in principle to transfer expenses is required.

Therefore, I would invite you to seek agreement to the in-principle expense transfer before the deadline specified in the annual Budget guidance (13 June).