

The Treasury

Budget 2013 Information Release

Release Document

July 2013

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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] Not in scope
- [13] 7(b) - to prevent prejudice to relations between any of the Governments of New Zealand, the Cook Islands or Niue
- [14] 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.

Proposed changes

- 5 MSD and the Treasury propose three new Benefit and Other Unrequited Expenses appropriation categories for each of these new main benefits in Vote Social Development from 15 July 2013.
- 6 These new appropriations will replace appropriations for current main benefits. There will be no changes in eligibility for a benefit as a result of these appropriation changes.
- 7 The proposed scope statements refer to the benefit eligibility provisions under the Social Security Act 1964 rather than specifically describing eligibility grounds, as currently. This reflects the fact that merging current benefits into the new benefits will result in multiple grounds of eligibility, making their descriptions more complex. This change in approach will not have an impact on the ability to pay benefits.

Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit

- 8 The proposed scope statement for the new Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit appropriation is:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means tested income support for people who are eligible for Jobseeker Support or an Emergency Benefit as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act.

Sole Parent Support

- 9 The proposed scope statement for the new Sole Parent Support appropriation is:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means-tested income support for people who are eligible for Sole Parent Support as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act.

Supported Living Payment

- 10 The proposed scope statement for the new Supported Living Payment appropriation is:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means-tested income support for people who are eligible for Supported Living Payment as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act.

Recommended actions

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **agree** to establish a new Benefit and Other Unrequited Expenses category in Vote Social Development from 15 July 2013 called “Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit”

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

- 2 **agree** that the scope statement for “Jobseeker Support and Emergency Benefit” be:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means tested income support for people who are eligible for Jobseeker Support or an Emergency Benefit as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

- 3 **agree** to establish a new Benefit and Other Unrequited Expenses category in Vote Social Development from 15 July 2013 called “Sole Parent Support”

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

- 4 **agree** that the scope statement for “Sole Parent Support” be:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means tested income support for people who are eligible for Sole Parent Support as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

- 5 **agree** to establish a new Benefit and Other Unrequited Expenses category in Vote Social Development from 15 July 2013 called “Supported Living Payment”

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

6 **agree** that the scope statement for “Supported Living Payment” be:

This appropriation is limited to the provision of means tested income support for people who are eligible for Supported Living Payment as set out in the Social Security Act 1964 and delegated legislation made under that Act

Agree / Disagree

Agree / Disagree

Anna Butler
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Income Support and Disability Issues
Ministry of Social Development

Date

Fiona Carter-Giddings
Team Leader
Labour Market and Welfare
Treasury

Date

Hon Bill English
Minister of Finance

Date

Hon Paula Bennett
Minister for Social Development

Date

File Ref:

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