

The Treasury

Budget 2015 Information Release

Release Document July 2015

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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] 6(e)(iv) - to damage seriously the economy of New Zealand by disclosing prematurely decisions to change or continue government economic or financial policies relating to the entering into of overseas trade agreements.
- [4] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [5] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [6] 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.
- [6a] 9(2)(ba)(ii) - to protect information, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest
- [7] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [8] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [8a] 9(2)(f)(ii) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- [9] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [10] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [11] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [12] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [13] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [14] Not in scope

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

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

Reference: T2015/549

SH-10

Date: 26 March 2015

To: Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Steven Joyce)
CC: Minister of Finance (Hon Bill English)
Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Paula Bennett)

Deadline: 01/04/15

Aide Memoire: Reconciliation of Treasury and Natural Resources Sector Budget packages

In our discussion with you on 19 March you asked for advice reconciling the Budget packages developed by the Treasury and the sector agencies for the Natural Resources sector.

Initiatives

The table in Annex A aims to do this. There are five different categories of initiatives to consider:

- Those supported by both Treasury and the sector agencies;
- Those supported by the Treasury but not included in the sector agencies' analysis as they are considered to be outside the sector;
- Those supported by the sector agencies but not by the Treasury;
- Those not supported by the Treasury and not included in the sector agencies' analysis as they are considered to be outside the sector; and
- Initiatives not supported by either the Treasury or the sector agencies.

[8]

Annex A - Reconciliation of Treasury /NRS agency Budget packages

	Category	Vote/Initiative	15/16 (\$m)	16/17 (\$m)	17/18 (\$m)	18/19 (\$m)	Sector Comment	Treasury view
1	Supported by Treasury and the Sector	Environment: Resource management	5.8	4.6	4.9	5.1	This reduced bid will deliver increased national direction but with slower roll-out of reforms and impacts will be felt later in the 4 year period than originally proposed.	Support
2		Environment: Water reform	4.1	4.5	4.5	3.7	MfE have indicated that this scaled back bid there will lead to reduced investment in economic modelling tools and support for joint economic analysis.	Support - however reduction in council engagement or policy work should come before impacts on economic analysis
3		Environment: EPA Support	4	0	0	0	Investment to continue delivery of core functions and will be reviewed for Budget 16	Support
4		Environment: Supply management strategy and auctioning system in NZ-ETS	1.7	1	0.7	0.7	This reduced bid will deliver a functioning system but design will be constrained; it includes procurement and operation of an auctioning platform, and setting up and managing an associated supply management and cap setting process	Support – depends on policy decisions around auctioning
Total			15.6	10.1	10.1	9.5		
5	Supported by Treasury Omitted from sector analysis Proposed to be funded through reprioritizing Primary Growth Partnership.	MPI: Animal welfare	2.7	2.7	2.3	2.3	N/A	Scaled bid to support increased pressure on service and new requirements under Animal Welfare Act (1999)
6		MPI: TB National Pest Management Plan	22.4				N/A	Support but potential to be scaled if necessary.
7		MPI: Strengthening Biosecurity Capability	1.6				N/A	Support in 15/16 to avoid service delivery risk whilst a review of operations is undertaken
Total			26.7	2.7	2.3	2.3		
Total Treasury package (lines 1-7)			42.3	12.8	12.4	11.8		

8	Not supported by Treasury	MPI: Afforestation Grants Scheme	0.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	Will deliver 15,000 ha of forest on erosion prone land	Potentially high value but discretionary and scalable.
9	Supported by sector	MPI: Extend Irrigation Acc. Fund	0	5	5	5	Will deliver up to an additional 175,000 ha of irrigated land over 5 years	Requires further scoping or planning work before funding should be committed
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12		DOC: Save Our Iconic Kiwi	0.6	0.9	3.1	6.6	To reverse decline and secure an increase in kiwi numbers and distribution	Not aligned with overall Government priorities
Total			7.1	16.3	18.5	22.0		
Total Sector Package (lines 1-4 + 8-12)			22.7	26.4	28.6	31.5		
13	Not supported by Treasury Omitted from sector analysis	MPI: Doubling the Value of Primary Sector Exports					N/A	Consists of potentially high value (FernMark+) and lower value elements. Manage high value elements within baselines
14	Not supported by Treasury		3.36	4.11	0	0		
15	Not supported by the sector							
16								
17								
18								
19								

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