

The Treasury

Budget 2016 Information Release

Release Document July 2016

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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]	to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government	6(a)
[4]	to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial	6(c)
[11]	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.	6(e)(vi)
[23]	to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people	9(2)(a)
[25]	to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information	9(2)(b)(ii)
[26]	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	9(2)(ba)(i)
[27]	to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information - would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest	9(2)(ba)(ii)
[29]	to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand	9(2)(d)
[31]	to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting collective and individual ministerial responsibility	9(2)(f)(ii)
[33]	to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials	9(2)(f)(iv)
[34]	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions	9(2)(g)(i)
[36]	to maintain legal professional privilege	9(2)(h)
[37]	to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantages or prejudice	9(2)(i)
[38]	to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice	9(2)(j)
[39]	to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	9(2)(k)
[s18(c)(i)]	that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment	
[40]	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 [23] 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) and section 18 of the Official Information Act.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

2016 Budget Package: Vote Attorney-General

On 25 April 2016, Cabinet:

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2016 Budget package, as listed in the summary below and detailed in the attached initiative documents;

Summary of initiatives included in the attached initiative documents:

Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
9127	Government Legal Network: Permanent Establishment	-	0.885	0.885	0.885	0.885
9126	Crown Prosecution Services – Sustainable funding	-	4.922	4.922	4.922	4.922
Total Operating		-	5.807	5.807	5.807	5.807

- 2 **approved** changes to appropriations to implement the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 3 **approved** the additional recommendations to give effect to the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 4 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Appropriation Minister to approve jointly any technical adjustments to baselines necessary to remove any errors or inconsistencies identified while finalising the 2015/16 Supplementary Estimates, the 2016/17 Estimates and the fiscal forecasts;

- 5 **noted** that all communications relating to the 2016 Budget are co-ordinated by a Budget communications committee, and that any requests for early announcement will need to have both the written approval of the Minister of Finance and sign-off from the Prime Minister's office.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Initiative No: 9127

Vote: Attorney-General

Title: Government Legal Network: Permanent Establishment

Description: This funding will provide for the permanent establishment of the Government Legal Network that has been operating on a temporary basis since 2011. The Government Legal Network is a collaboration of Government agency lawyers and the Solicitor-General that leverages the collective legal resources and expertise of the Crown to enable the Government in the delivery of better public services to New Zealanders.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	0.885	0.885	0.885	0.885
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
Total	-	0.985	0.985	0.985	0.985

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure					
Law Officer Functions					
Departmental Output Expense:					
Government Legal Network (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.885	0.885	0.885	0.885
Government Legal Network (funded by revenue department)	-	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
Total Operating	-	0.985	0.985	0.985	0.985

Additional Recommendation

6 **noted** that the Minister of Finance and the Attorney-General have agreed to add the following category to the multi-category appropriation “Law Officer Functions” to implement these initiatives:

Name	Type	Scope
Government Legal Network	Departmental Output Expense	This category is limited to developing the collective capability, effectiveness and efficiency of government lawyers.

Vote: Attorney-General

Title: Crown Prosecution Services – Sustainable Funding

Description: This funding will allow increased resources to be provided to Crown prosecutors, addressing current and emerging risks to the sustainability of the national Crown prosecution service. This ensures offenders are held to account through high quality Crown prosecutions and appeals.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	4.922	4.922	4.922	4.922
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	4.922	4.922	4.922	4.922

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure					
Law Officer Functions					
Departmental Output Expense:					
Public Prosecution Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	4.922	4.922	4.922	4.922
Total Operating	-	4.922	4.922	4.922	4.922