

The Treasury

Budget 2017 Information Release

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[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)
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[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)
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[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)
[40]	Not in scope	

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.

Bowel Screening in New Zealand – Next Steps

Responsible Person: Ben McBride, Manager, Health, 917 6184

First Contact Person: Davin Hall, Senior Analyst. 917 6195

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek the release of establishment funding (\$39M) for the national bowel screening rollout that was appropriated in Budget 16 pending the submission of a restated programme business case. The restated programme business case, informed by additional work by the Ministry over the remainder of 2016, will underpin a Budget 17 bid for ongoing programme funding.

Comment

2. When the funding for the establishment of the national bowel screening rollout was approved in Budget 16, the release of the funding was conditional on the development of a restated business case which included confirmation of DHB support, IT options analysis, support from Health Workforce New Zealand and evidence of the pilot findings being considered (CAB-16-MIN-0189.14 refers). These criteria have been met in the restated case but outstanding questions remain about the viability of the rollout timeframes proposed in the business case.
3. The governance and management of the bowel screening programme has recently been replaced by the Ministry, which has driven a re-evaluation of key aspects of the rollout plan, particularly around the national IT solution, DHB capability and readiness and sector borne implementation costs. As a result, the Cabinet paper commits to significant work in these areas through to the end of 2016 which are likely to have a flow through impact on the rollout phasing and timeframes (a potential extension of the timeframe of up to a year is signalled).
4. The Treasury and GCIO will work closely with the Ministry as this work is undertaken and the business cases for tranche 2 and 3 are developed. This work will also inform the budget bid for the ongoing programme funding in Budget 17. Based on the commitment by the Ministry to progress work in these areas in concert with Central Agencies, we support the release of the funding appropriated in Budget 16 to Vote Health. Access to the tagged capital contingency established in Budget 16 will be sought when the business case for tranche 2 is submitted.

Treasury Recommendation

5. We recommend that you **support** the recommendations in this paper.

Title	Pg	Recommend	Fiscal Implications (\$m GST excl.)					Treasury Comment
			16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	Out years	
Bowel Screening in New Zealand – Next Steps		Support	<i>Operating</i>					The paper seeks the release of funding appropriated in Budget 16 to Vote Health for the establishment of the national bowel screening rollout. There are no fiscal implications arising from the paper.
			<i>Capital</i>					