

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)
[23]	to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people	9(2)(a)
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[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)
[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.

Reference: T2016/2323 DH-10-0

Date: 25 November 2016

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

Deadline: 29 November 2016

Aide Memoire: Briefing for ERD: 8am Tuesday 29 November 2016

1. This briefing replaces the normal briefing for ERD. There are three items on the agenda: (i) New Zealand Participation at Expo 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; [40]

New Zealand Participation at Expo 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2. This paper provides Ministers with early visibility of the rationale for participation in Dubai Expo 2020 and seeks an endorsement to submit a budget bid.
3. Participation at the preferred level would require \$53.24 million (over 5 years) of new funding from the operating allowance of Budget 17.
4. This paper contains a Treasury comment noting that this proposal will need to be carefully weighed against other operating pressures in Budget 17.

Comment

5. It is not necessary to take this paper to Cabinet ahead of the budget process, however there is a strong Ministerial preference to give Cabinet visibility of this initiative prior to the submission of the bid.
6. A 'modest' sized pavilion is proposed. Another option is a 'small' pavilion costing approximately \$12 million less. While this smaller option provides more limited hosting options, it is an approach being used by other small countries. [29]

[29]

7. There are inherent challenges in evaluating the benefits (and benefits at risk) of this type of initiative. In particular, it is difficult to model the consequences of not attending. Some bespoke modelling was undertaken as this type of initiative pushes against the limits of CBAX. This is noted in the Treasury comment.

Treasury Recommendation

8. We recommend that you **support** the recommendations in this paper and **note** that we will provide you with advice through the budget process on the merits of this proposal.

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Chris Nees, Team Leader, International, [39]