

The Treasury

Budget 2017 Information Release

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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)
[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.

Hon Paula Bennett
Minister of Police and Minister for Women and Climate Change Issues
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Paula

Budget 2017 initiative outcomes

Thank you for your hard work and input as part of the Budget 2017 process.

There were a number of positive changes introduced this Budget to ensure greater scrutiny is applied consistently across all investment decisions. This includes enforcement of cost benefit analysis and broader application of CBAX, greater use of expert panels in the assessment of initiatives and a new social investment track (Track 1) focussed on better use of evidence and evaluation.

Budget Ministers have noted a lift in the quality of initiatives submitted in Budget 2017, particularly for Track 1. A high bar was applied in the assessment of Track 1 initiatives and we expect agencies to continue to build on their evidence base and take a more client-centred (and cross agency) approach for future Budgets.

As you are aware, we set aside an operating allowance of \$1.5 billion per annum for operating and \$3.0 billion for capital in Budget 2017. Funding sought by Ministers significantly exceeded that allowance. A large proportion of funding sought was to address volume and other cost pressures across the system, along with some targeted investment in priority areas for a growing population.

To help meet this challenge and respond to the Kaikōura earthquakes, Budget Ministers are proposing to increase the allowances by a modest amount from what was signalled through the Budget Policy Statement in December last year.

Budget Ministers have carefully considered your Budget initiatives for Votes Serious Fraud, Climate Change, Women and New Zealand Police and have reached the following decisions:

Summary of the initiative supported through Budget 2017

\$ millions		Operating					Capital
ID	Initiative Name	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
9801	Case and Evidence Management Systems	-	0.555	0.295	0.295	0.295	0.840
9771	Domestic Climate Change Package -	-	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	-

	Emissions reductions at home						
9847	Tourism Infrastructure Fund	-	14.449	16.935	14.598	14.500	-
9797	Iwi/Community Panels	-	2.730	2.750	-	-	-

Final decisions on all Budget initiatives will be discussed and agreed by Cabinet on 18 April 2017.

Yours sincerely

Steven Joyce
Minister of Finance