

Reference: 20150148

25 June 2015



Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 7 May 2015. You requested the following:

- *All aide memoires and Ministry of Health reports regarding funding of electives discharges in Vote Health since November 2014 received by the Treasury;*
- *All emails from the Ministry of Health regarding the funding of electives discharges in Vote Health since November 2014 received by the Treasury.”*

On 5 June we sought an extension of 20 working days. A response to your request is now due by 3 July 2015.

Information Being Released

Please find enclosed the following documents:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1.	5 December 2014	New Initiatives and commitments Budget 2015	Release in part
2.	4 February 2015	Budget 2015 Templates: Additional Electives – Health Target & Reducing Pain and More Electives	Release in part

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above. Item 1 is a document attached to an email from the Ministry of Health dated 5 December 2014. Item 2 comprises two attachments from an email received from the Ministry of Health dated 4 February 2015.

Information Publicly Available

The following information is also covered by your request and will be publicly available on the Treasury website as part of the Budget 2015 proactive release scheduled for early July. Accordingly, I am declining the request for this information under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act – the information is or will soon be publicly available.

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
3.	28 November 2014	Advice on District Health Board Funding Signal for 2015/16	www.treasury.govt.nz/budget/2015

Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the Official Information Act, on the grounds described in the documents.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This fully covers the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Ben McBride
Manager, Health

Information Being Released

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BUDGET 2015 INITIATIVE– DEPARTMENT TEMPLATE

This template seeks a high-level summary of the Budget 2015 significant initiatives. It is expected that initiatives will be supported by more in-depth information in the form of a business case, Capital Asset Management Plan or similar. This supporting information should be provided to the Vote Analyst at the same time as this initiative template is submitted.

Vote	Health
Initiative title	Additional 4000 Electives Procedures
Initiative description	Funding for 2,000 additional elective procedures each year, to be matched by district health boards funding a further 2,000 procedures.
Does this initiative have a supporting business case, or Capital Asset Management plan or similar?	No

Funding Sought at Budget 15 (\$m)	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Operating	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000
Capital				

Description of Initiative (Description of what the funding request is for).	
<i>The electives health target requires an increase of 4000 discharges each year. DHBs and the Crown each fund half of this. Funding is required for the Crown's portion of the initiative.</i>	
Will this initiative have cross-agency involvement? Please explain and include implications for all agencies.	No
How will this initiative be delivered and managed?	Elective discharges are delivered by DHBs
How will the performance of this initiative be assessed? (Please include who will assess the performance and when performance will be assessed.)	The Electives team in the National Health Board manages DHB performance

Links with Four Year Plan	
How does this initiative fit with your agency's strategic direction?	Sustaining base services and continuing to improve access
Is this initiative a new activity, expanding a current activity or replacing an existing activity, either in your agency or more broadly across that State Sector?	Expanding current services
What strategic trade-offs would be required to fund this initiative from baselines?	

Initiative Impact	
What is this initiative intended to achieve?	Achievement of the Electives Health Target – increase elective surgery by 4000 discharges each year
What options for phasing/scaling/deferring have you considered?	
What evidence/information have you considered in proposing this initiative?	
Describe the implications if this funding is not approved.	Electives Health Target growth will not be achieved. Level of surgery being provided may reduce from current (and previous) years.
Describe the implications if this funding is deferred.	

BUDGET 2015 INITIATIVE– DEPARTMENT TEMPLATE

This template seeks a high-level summary of the Budget 2015 significant initiatives. It is expected that initiatives will be supported by more in-depth information in the form of a business case, Capital Asset Management Plan or similar. This supporting information should be provided to the Vote Analyst at the same time as this initiative template is submitted.

Vote	Health
Initiative title	<i>More elective surgery, reducing pain, and increasing prevention</i>
Initiative description	<i>New funding for more elective surgery, reducing pain, and increasing prevention</i>
Does this initiative have a supporting business case, or Capital Asset Management plan or similar?	No

Funding Sought at Budget 15 (\$m)	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Operating	9.9	18.1	22.0	
Capital				

Description of Initiative (Description of what the funding request is for).	
<p><i>The Government announced as part of its election manifesto commitments that it will invest \$50 million extra over three years to help reduce pain and increase prevention by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering an extra 2250 hip, knee and other orthopaedic operations over the next term in addition to the usual increases in elective surgery • Provide more than 1500 extra general elective surgeries, such as hernia, gallstone and vein conditions • Invest \$6m to create primary care-based early intervention teams <p>This initiative is short term funded as per the election commitment, however this will create a fiscal hole or the need to reduce services in outyears if this is not addressed. One additional Full Time Equivalent will be required for the Primary Care component of this initiative. A proposal will be presented to the Ministry for consideration.</p>	
Will this initiative have cross-agency involvement? Please explain and include implications for all agencies.	No
How will this initiative be delivered and managed?	This initiative will be delivered through DHBS
How will the performance of this initiative be assessed? (Please include who will assess the performance and when performance will be assessed.)	Activity will be monitored by the Electives and National Services team in the National Health Board

Links with Four Year Plan	
How does this initiative fit with your agency's strategic direction?	Sustaining base services and continuing to improve access, effectiveness and quality of treatment services
Is this initiative a new activity, expanding a current activity or replacing an existing activity, either in your agency or more broadly across that State Sector?	Expanding current activity
What strategic trade-offs would be required to fund this initiative from baselines?	

Initiative Impact	
What is this initiative intended to achieve?	An increase in the number of orthopaedic and general surgery operations being delivered, and establishment of primary care-based intervention teams to support people with musculoskeletal conditions

What options for phasing/scaling/deferring have you considered?	
What evidence/information have you considered in proposing this initiative?	
Describe the implications if this funding is not approved.	Additional orthopaedic and general surgery will not be delivered and primary care-based intervention teams will not be funded.
Describe the implications if this funding is deferred.	Timeframes for achievement will be deferred

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

DRAFT Working Document only - not government policy

[Information not relevant to request]

Budget 2015		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total	outyears
<i>[Information not relevant to request]</i>							
Election Promises							
<i>[Information not relevant to request]</i>							
Reduce Pain, Increase Prevention		16.000	27.000	5.000		48.000	-
Electives		12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000	48.000	12.000

[Information not relevant to request]

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