

The Treasury

Budget 2011 Information Release

Release Document

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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] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [2] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [3] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [4] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [5] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [6] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [7] 6(a) - to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [8] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [9] 6(c) - to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial
- [10] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [11] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice.

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, an [8] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(h).

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

Hon Phil Heatley
Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries
Minister of Housing
4.1R EW The Beehive
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Phil

In early February you forwarded to me an addendum to the Four-year Budget Plans prepared by the Ministry of Fisheries for Vote Fisheries and a resubmitted Four-year Budget Plan prepared by the Department of Housing for Vote Housing as part of the preparation for Budget 2011.

Budget Ministers met to discuss the fiscal implications of the Canterbury earthquake, resubmitted Four-Year Budget Plans, and the capital package on Monday 28 February.

Vote Fisheries

At that meeting we agreed that the Māori Aquaculture Settlement proposal should be accepted as submitted.

Vote Housing

We also agreed that the Plan for Vote Housing be accepted, except for the proposal for Community Group Housing. As I have since discussed with you, an unfunded cost of \$5.5 million in 2011/12 remains in the Community Group Housing programme. However, offsetting savings of \$2.3 million were identified for this purpose in the resubmitted Four-year Budget Plan. These savings have been deducted from the cost of \$5.5 million, leaving a shortfall of \$3.2 million. Additional funding to cover this shortfall will be provided for in 2011/12 with the expectation that the HNZC dividend for 11/12 will be increased by \$3.2 million to cover this cost.

In future, the cost of the funding shortfall should be transferred to the Votes that purchase services from the Community Group Housing programme. I am happy to join you in discussions with the relevant Ministers.

Your department should submit financial recommendations in March to give effect to any agreed changes to appropriations. Following that, estimates documents will be due in April.

Yours sincerely

Hon Bill English
Minister of Finance