

The Treasury

Budget 2014 Information Release

Release Document

July 2014

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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] 6(a) - to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [2] 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
- [3] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [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
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- [6] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [7] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [8] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [9] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [10] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [11] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [12] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [13] Not in scope
- [14] 6(e)(iv) - 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.

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, a [3] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(a).

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

Healthy Families NZ

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1. This paper proposing introducing a community based healthy-eating initiative based on a model introduced in Victoria, Australia, *Healthy Together Communities*, as part of the Government's approach to reducing the prevalence and consequences of chronic disease. It is proposed that the project, which will cost \$44 million over four years, is to be funded from reprioritisation and the indicative health allocation in Budget 2014 and introduced from 1 July.

Comment

2. We have two main comments about the paper:
 - Preventable chronic disease is a substantial cost to the health sector and one that countries are struggling to respond to around the world. While we are aware that the success of the Victorian Healthy Together programme has yet to be proven – officials there are gathering evidence as it operates – we do not oppose the introduction of the initiative in New Zealand on the basis that a range of different approaches are needed to respond to chronic disease. It will be important to evaluate the programme's effectiveness alongside its operation, and be prepared to make changes as required. The Ministry should ensure that contracts with third parties give them this flexibility.
 - Ministers are asked to agree this initiative before considering it against other priorities and pressures in the Budget 2014 health allocation. We are unable to advise you on its relative priority as the Ministry of Health has yet to complete a draft of its four year plan or provide us with a list of possible bids.

Treasury Recommendation

3. We recommend that you **support** the recommendations in this paper but ask the Minister of Health how it compares to other priorities in the Budget 2014 health allocation.

The following table goes into the Executive Summary of the paper

Title	Pg	Recommend	Fiscal Implications (\$m GST excl.)					Treasury Comment
			13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	Out years	
Healthy Families		Support	<i>Operating</i>					This paper proposes introducing a new initiative aimed at reducing preventable chronic disease, which will be funded from reprioritisation or the Budget 2014 health allocation. We are unable to advise you on its relative priority as the Ministry of Health has yet to complete a draft of its four year plan or a list of possible bids.
			xx.xx	xx.xx	xx.xx	xx.xx	xx xx	
			<i>Capital</i>					