

# 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.



## Minute of Decision

*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

### Budget 2014: Vote Energy Technical Initiatives

On 7 April 2014, Cabinet:

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2014 Budget package, as listed in the summary below and detailed in the attached initiative documents;

#### Summary of initiatives included in the attached initiative documents:

##### Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
8284	Electricity and Gas Safety Policy	-	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)
8112	Savings from formation of Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment	-	(0.482)	(0.482)	(0.482)	(0.482)
8267	Vote Realignment to Reflect Implementation of One-Cost Allocation Methodology	(1.400)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>		<b>(1.400)</b>	<b>(0.682)</b>	<b>(0.682)</b>	<b>(0.682)</b>	<b>(0.682)</b>

- 2 **approved** the changes to appropriations to implement the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 3 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2013/14 above be included in the 2013/14 Supplementary Estimates;
- 4 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Vote Minister to approve jointly any technical adjustments to baselines necessary to remove any errors or inconsistencies identified while finalising the 2013/14 Supplementary Estimates, the 2014/15 Estimates and the fiscal forecasts;

- 5 **noted** that all communications relating to the 2014 Budget are co-ordinated by a Budget communications committee, and that any requests for early announcement will need to have both the written approval of the Minister of Finance and sign-off from the Prime Minister's office.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (14) 160

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## Initiative No: 8284

**Vote:** Energy

**Title:** Electricity and Gas Safety Policy

**Description:** This initiative provides for the transfer of the Crown funded portion of electricity and gas safety policy from Vote Energy to Vote Labour to continue to provide policy advice on legislation and regulations.

### Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
<b>Departmental Output Expense:</b>					
Administration of Gas, Electricity and Energy Efficiency Regulations and Related Acts (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>	<b>(0.200)</b>
<b>Total Capital</b>	-	-	-	-	-

### Additional recommendation

6 **noted** that a corresponding initiative in Vote Labour will complete this fiscally neutral adjustment.

## Initiative No: 8112

**Vote:** Energy

**Title:** Savings from the formation of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

**Description:** This initiative provides for savings as a result of the formation of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

### Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	(0.482)	(0.482)	(0.482)	(0.482)
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
<b>Departmental Output Expenses:</b>					
Administration of Gas, Electricity and Energy Efficiency Regulations and Related Acts (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.059)	(0.059)	(0.059)	(0.059)
Energy and Resource Information Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.048)	(0.048)	(0.048)	(0.048)
Energy and Resources Operational Policy, Ministerial Servicing and Crown Entity Monitoring (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.016)	(0.016)	(0.016)	(0.016)
Management of the Crown Mineral Estate (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.285)	(0.285)	(0.285)	(0.285)
Policy Advice – Energy and Resource Issues (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.074)	(0.074)	(0.074)	(0.074)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>	<b>(0.482)</b>
<b>Total Capital</b>	-	-	-	-	-

## Initiative No: 8267

**Vote:** Energy

**Title:** Vote Realignment to Reflect Implementation of One-Cost Allocation Methodology

**Description:** This initiative provides for fiscally neutral adjustments across Votes and appropriations administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to reflect the introduction of one cost allocation methodology following the establishment of MBIE and implementation of the organisation management structure.

### Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	(1.400)	-	-	-	-
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1.400)</b>	-	-	-	-

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 & Outyears
<b>Departmental Output Expense:</b>					
Policy Advice – Energy and Resource Issues (funded by revenue Crown)	(1.400)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>(1.400)</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Capital</b>	-	-	-	-	-