

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
- [5] 9(2)(ba)(i) - 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.
- [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.

From: [8]
To: [8]
Cc: [Erin King \[TSY\]](#); [Ben McBride \[TSY\]](#)
Subject: Health report - electives budget bid
Date: Tuesday, 4 February 2014 9:30:00 a.m.

[8]

Here are our thoughts on the paper you sent through last night:

- The \$25 million for elective discharges is factored into the Vote Health Four-year Plan as a new initiative, and is aligned with the elective surgery Health Target. (Note too though that the Four-year Plan is currently unbalanced by \$50 million in year four.)
- We are not in a good position to advise on whether or not the DHBs really need this signal now as the Ministry has not shared or discussed this paper with us. The Ministry would likely argue that it is the same as the funding signal they give to DHBs in November which enables DHBs to begin their annual planning process. However, other departments are currently planning for the 2014/15 year without knowing the outcome of the Budget so it is not clear why the DHBs are different.
- If this report is signed off now, it is likely to incentivise the Ministry of Health to bypass us in the lead-up to the Budget, and MOF could expect to see more reports locking in funding for Health. This limits Cabinet's choices for the whole budget package.
- To avoid this process continuing and for consistency across all government agencies, **we advise that MOF does not sign off this report.**
- [8]

I'm in an external meeting from 9:30 and then have MoF's briefing to the Treasury, so I won't be at my desk for an hour or so, but let me know if you have any questions and I'll be in touch as soon as I'm back.

Thanks,

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From:[8]
Sent: Monday, 3 February 2014 5:31 p.m.
[8]

Subject: FW: 7.6 scanner

[8]

As discussed – thanks!

[8]

[8]

Office of Hon Bill English | Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance
7.6 Beehive, Parliament Buildings, PO Box 18041, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

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