

# The Treasury

## Budget 2018 Information Release

### Release Document August 2018

<https://treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/budget-2018-information-release>

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]	to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government	6(a)
[2]	to avoid prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government	6(b)(i)
[4]	to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial	6(c)
[11]	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.	6(e)(vi)
[23]	to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people	9(2)(a)
[25]	to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information	9(2)(b)(ii)
[26]	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	9(2)(ba)(i)
[27]	to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information - would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest	9(2)(ba)(ii)
[29]	to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand	9(2)(d)
[31]	to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting collective and individual ministerial responsibility	9(2)(f)(ii)
[33]	to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials	9(2)(f)(iv)
[34]	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions	9(2)(g)(i)
[36]	to maintain legal professional privilege	9(2)(h)
[37]	to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantages or prejudice	9(2)(i)
[38]	to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice	9(2)(j)
[39]	to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	9(2)(k)
[40]	not in scope	
[41]	that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment	18(c)(i)
[42]	information is already publicly available or will be publicly available soon	18(d)

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) and section 18 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.*

### 2018 Budget Package: Vote Statistics

On 9 April 2018, Cabinet:

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2018 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)				
		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
10335	Data Futures Partnership - Return to the Crown	-	(0.500)	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)
10323	Improving the Measurement of Child Poverty in New Zealand	-	7.283	6.137	6.137	6.137
<b>Total Operating</b>		-	<b>6.783</b>	<b>5.137</b>	<b>5.137</b>	<b>5.137</b>

##### Capital Initiatives (Impact on Debt)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
10325	Capital Injections - Return to the Crown	(2.500)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Capital</b>		<b>(2.500)</b>	-	-	-	-

- 2 **approved** changes to appropriations and the capital injections to the administering department to implement the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 3 **approved** the additional recommendations to give effect to the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 4 **agreed** that the proposed change to capital injections for 2017/18 above be included in the 2017/18 Supplementary Estimates;

- 5 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Appropriation Minister to approve jointly any technical adjustments to baselines necessary to remove any errors or inconsistencies identified while finalising the 2017/18 Supplementary Estimates, the 2018/19 Estimates and the fiscal forecasts;
- 6 **noted** that all communications relating to the 2018 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.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

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**Hard-copy distribution:**

Prime Minister  
Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister of Finance  
Minister of Statistics

**Vote:** Statistics

**Title:** Capital Injections - Return to the Crown

**Description:** This return of capital injections to the Crown results from a change in the technology environment at Statistics New Zealand with some costs now classified as operating rather than capital.

### Appropriation changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Impact	(2.500)	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(2.500)</b>	-	-	-	-

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
<b>Capital Injections:</b>					
Statistics New Zealand - Capital Injection	(2.500)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>(2.500)</b>	-	-	-	-

## Initiative No: 10335

**Vote:** Statistics

**Title:** Data Futures Partnership - Return to the Crown

**Description:** This saving results from the decision to stop the work of the Data Futures Partnership with savings in operating expenditure of \$0.5 million in 2018/19 and \$1.0 million per year from 2019/20 through to outyears.

### Appropriation changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	(0.500)	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>(0.500)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
<b>Departmental Output Expenses:</b>					
Data Futures Partnership (funded by revenue Crown)	-	(0.500)	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>(0.500)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>	<b>(1.000)</b>

## Initiative No: 10323

**Vote:** Statistics

**Title:** Improving the Measurement of Child Poverty in New Zealand

**Description:** This funding will increase the sample size of the Household Economic Survey, and fund investigation into improvements in data methodology and integration, to allow more precise measures of child poverty in New Zealand.

### Appropriation changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	7.283	6.137	6.137	6.137
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>7.283</b>	<b>6.137</b>	<b>6.137</b>	<b>6.137</b>

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 & Outyears
<b>Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:</b>					
Official Statistics (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expenses:</i>					
Population, Social and Labour Market Data and Statistical Information Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	7.283	6.137	6.137	6.137
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Official Statistics (MCA)	-	7.283	6.137	6.137	6.137
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>7.283</b>	<b>6.137</b>	<b>6.137</b>	<b>6.137</b>
<b>Total Capital</b>	-	-	-	-	-

### Additional recommendation

- 7 **directed** Statistics New Zealand to report to the Minister of Statistics and the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction by July 2021 on the methodology for the measurement of child poverty, to test whether the Household Economic Survey remains the best option for collecting data on child poverty and if further improvements could be made.