

Reference: 20190476



9 August 2019

s9(2)(a)

Dear s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 12 July 2019. You requested the following:

Please provide any correspondence with or documents provided to Government ministers or their offices relating to the “Medicinal Cannabis Scheme” which has been put out for consultation.

Information being released

Please find enclosed the following documents relating to the Treasury’s advice on the consultation process for the Medicinal Cannabis Scheme:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1.	21 June 2019	Email – RE Medicinal Cannabis scheme paper – feedback for consultation	Release in part
2.	21 June 2019	Treasury Report: Briefing for Social Wellbeing Committee Meeting Wednesday, 26 June 2019	Release in part

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons,
- names and contact details of junior officials and certain sensitive advice, under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions,
- direct dial phone numbers of officials, under section 9(2)(k) – to prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or improper advantage.

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We have redacted the direct dial phone numbers of officials under section 9(2)(k) in order to reduce the possibility of staff being exposed to phishing and other scams. This is because information released under the OIA may end up in the public domain, for example, on websites including Treasury's own website.

Information publicly available

The following information is related to your request and is publicly available on the Ministry of Health website:

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	18 December 2018	Advice on the Government's Medicinal Cannabis 100-day Commitment	https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/medicines-control/medicinal-cannabis/misuse-drugs-medicinal-cannabis-amendment-act/advice-governments-medicinal-cannabis-100-day-commitment

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Jess Hewat
Manager, Health and ACC

TOIA 20190476

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2.	Briefing for Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee 26_06_2019 09_30 AM	2

From: [s9(2)(g)(i)]
Sent: Friday, 21 June 2019 10:06 AM
To: [s9(2)(a)]; @AMoFSecondees
Cc: Carolyn Palmer [TSY]; [s9(2)(g)(i)]
Subject: RE: Medicinal Cannabis scheme paper - feedback for consultation

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi all, here's our feedback on the medicinal cannabis paper. Cheers, [s9(2)(g)(i)]

Title of paper	Medicinal Cannabis Scheme: Public Consultation and establishing a medicinal cannabis agency
Minister and agency	Hon Dr David Clark Ministry of Health
Description	This paper seeks agreement to release a public consultation document on the regulations for the medicinal cannabis scheme, and to establish the medicinal cannabis agency in the Ministry of Health.
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy decisions will be made in October after the public consultation • It is not clear if the RIA exemption condition has been confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
Fiscal implications	No fiscal implications. Further information on funding the scheme will be provided at a report back to Cabinet in October.
Recommended action	Support.

[s9(2)(g)(i)] | Health and ACC | Te Tai Ōhanga - The Treasury
 [s9(2)(k)] [s9(2)(g)(i)]

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TE TAI ŌHANGA
THE TREASURY
Treasury Report: Briefing for Social Wellbeing Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 26 June 2019

Date:	21 June 2019	Report No:	T2019/1821
		File Number:	MS-5-3-SWC

Action Sought

	Action Sought	Deadline
Minister of Finance (Hon Grant Robertson)	Read prior to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee meeting	09:30 AM, Wednesday 26 June 2019
Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr David Clark)	Read prior to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee meeting	09:30 AM, Wednesday 26 June 2019
Associate Minister of Finance (Hon David Parker)	Read prior to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee meeting	09:30 AM, Wednesday 26 June 2019
Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Shane Jones)	Read prior to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee meeting	09:30 AM, Wednesday 26 June 2019
Associate Minister of Finance (Hon James Shaw)	Read prior to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee meeting	09:30 AM, Wednesday 26 June 2019

Contact for Telephone Discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st Contact	
s9(2)(g)(i)	Graduate Analyst, Education and Population Agencies	s9(2)(k)	N/A	✓
Andrew Rutledge	Manager, Education and Population Agencies		N/A	

Actions for the Minister's Office Staff (if required)

Return the signed report to Treasury.

Note any feedback on the quality of the report

Enclosure: No

Note: Pages 2, 4 and 5 have been deleted as they are not relevant to the request

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Comments	Fiscal implications	Treasury Recommendation
Deleted - Not Relevant to Request		
<p>Medicinal Cannabis Scheme: Release of Consultation Document</p> <p>Treasury contact: s9(2)(g)(i)</p>		
<p>This paper seeks agreement to release a public consultation document on the regulations for the medicinal cannabis scheme, and to establish the medicinal cannabis agency in the Ministry of Health.</p>		
<p>We support this paper, as high level decisions have already been taken and consultation needs to begin shortly. Detailed policy decisions will be made in October after the public consultation.</p> <p>One possible issue is that from the wording in the paper, it is not clear if the RIA exemption condition has been confirmed by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry needs to confirm that that the consultation paper meets the requirements of a RIA. We have not had time to confirm whether this has happened.</p>	<p>No fiscal implications.</p> <p>Further information on funding the scheme will be provided at a report back to Cabinet in October.</p>	<p>Support.</p>
Deleted - Not Relevant to Request		

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Deleted - Not Relevant to Request



Recommended Action

We recommend that you **read** this report prior to the Social Wellbeing Committee meeting at 09:30am on Wednesday, 26 June 2019.

Andrew Rutledge
Manager, Education and Population Agencies

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance