

The Treasury

COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund Reporting Information Release

August 2021

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Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified.

Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to sections of the Act under which information has been withheld:

- [33] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [34] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [35] 9(2)(g)(ii) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting ministers, members of government organisations, officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment;
- [37] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [39] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage

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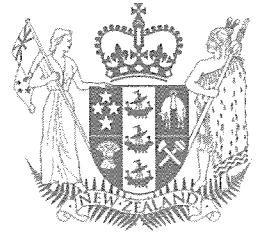
Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence



02 JUN 2020

To: All Ministers

Re: Budget 20 & CRRF Contingency – Covid-19 Implementation Unit

The past few months have shown like no other the effectiveness of this government when working together for a common goal. We went hard and early in our response to COVID-19, and have made excellent progress in eliminating the virus. It is now essential that we provide the same clarity of purpose and action in our work to support the economic response.

I am sure that you and your agencies will have been giving this thought and will in some cases have begun implementation. Even though most CRRF money is not actually available to be spent until 1 July, there is a large amount of preparatory work that can be done in the next month to ensure that we are delivering on our agreed goals. And once 1 July comes around we need to be demonstrating that the work programme is being implemented.

Our top priority between now and the election must be the successful delivery of Budget 20 and CRRF projects, together with a clear translation of how our programme is delivering positive outcomes for New Zealanders, businesses, and their communities. Ministers will need to ensure that their agencies are aware of the priority with which we are giving to this work, so that they can support and arrange accordingly.

To this end, we have agreed to establish a Covid-19 Implementation Unit to assist with this process. The Unit will monitor progress and assist Ministers and Departments in implementing the CRRF and B20 policies and investment. The unit will include Beehive based staff as well as support from central agencies. We have an expectation that all Ministers will:

- Establish the core elements of the Budget 20 and CRRF package in your area
- Set clear timelines and deliverables for each of them.
- Provide milestones on which you will report against progress
- Show the outputs and outcomes that New Zealanders will benefit from as a consequence of this programme

Following on from this we expect that ministers will provide a continuous stream of reporting on these priorities, and work with the unit as any issues arise. The first point of contact within the Covid-19 Implementation Unit will be Craig Renney, who will be in touch with you over the next week on how the process will develop from here.

Yours sincerely

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance