

The Treasury

Upcoming Issues Briefing Information Release

July 2022

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- [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
- [38] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate 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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Treasury Report: Upcoming Issues Briefing for the Minister - 25 March 2021

Date:	25 March 2021	Report No:	T2021/732
		File Number:	CO-6-2-6

Action sought

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Grant Robertson Minister of Finance	<p>Note the contents of this briefing</p> <p>Provide feedback on the draft agenda for the Weekly Agency Meeting</p> <p>Agree not to process with the proposal in relation to Section 2, item 2.</p>	None

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st Contact
Gopika Gnanakumar	Senior Analyst Governance and Accountability	N/A [35] (wk)	✓
Jordan Ward	Acting Manager, Governance and Accountability	N/A (wk)	

Minister's Office actions (if required)

Return the signed report to Treasury.

Note any feedback on the quality of the report

Enclosure: Yes (attached)

Recommended Action

We recommend that you:

- a **Note** the contents of the attached briefing

Noted.

- b **Provided any feedback you have on the following sections:**

- a. Section 1: Upcoming Minister's meetings
- b. Section 2: Short updates
- c. Section 3: Updates of Key Priorities

In relation to Section 2, item 2:

- c **Agree** not to proceed with the housing investment proposal, given its limited benefits for the Crown compared with other equity leveraging avenues and complexity

Agree/Not agree

- d **Agree** for Treasury officials to advise Te Omeka Pa of your decision.

Agree/Not agree

Jordan Ward
Acting Manager, Governance and Accountability

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

Upcoming Issues Briefing to the Minister of Finance Report

25 March 2021

1. Upcoming Minister Meetings

Proposed agenda items for upcoming Weekly Agency Meetings

Item	Description	Time	Minister's feedback
	<i>Time allows for one substantive item and short updates.</i>		
Meeting next week (Note: 9am Wednesday, 31 March)			
1.	Living Standards Framework	15 minutes	
2.	Budget 2021 – outstanding decisions (if required)	5 minutes	
3.	Preliminary fiscal forecasts	5 minutes	
4.	OAG review of shovel ready and NZ Upgrade	5 minutes	
Upcoming meetings			
5.	Discussion of the Final Economic and Tax Forecasts for Budget Economic and Fiscal Update 2021 (19 April)		

Proposed agenda items for upcoming Finance Portfolio Meetings

Item	Description	Time	Minister's feedback
	<i>Time allows for 1-2 substantive items.</i>		
Meeting next week			
No meeting scheduled for 1 April.			
Proposed items for upcoming meetings			
1.	Kiwi Group Holdings		
2.	Climate Change Funding and Financing		
3.	Capital Accounting Treatment and the Business Case Process		
4.	Fiscal Indicators Review: analysis to date and a timeline for making changes		

2. Short Updates

Information and process updates for the Minister. The Minister is to indicate if further information is required.

	Topic	Comment	Team Name and Contact	Recommendations and Minister's Feedback
1.	Follow-up from Future of Work Tripartite Forum meeting 22 March	MBIE and social partners are arranging for the Social Insurance Tripartite Working Group (SITWG) to implement the next steps on social insurance following the Future of Work Forum on 22 March	Skills and Work Nick Carroll [39]	
2.	Te Omeka Private Assets Trust Limited Proposal	<p>You met with Te Omeka Private Assets Trust Limited ("Te Omeka Pa") Trustees and representatives from Te Haahi Ratana and the Māori Women's Welfare League in July 2020 on a housing investment proposal, and asked us to work with the Te Omeka Pa to better understand their objectives, and advise on whether the idea was worth progressing, including testing with the Te Omeka Pa as to whether they would be best placed to engage Kāinga Ora directly to partner for social housing delivery.</p> <p>Upon consideration of the proposal we consider that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Crown already has efficient and cost-effective tools to be able to raise capital for infrastructure and social housing investment. Based on our engagement, the proposal doesn't appear to provide any benefits or better mechanisms from a funding perspective. Under the Overseas Investment Act, overseas persons must get consent to acquire residential land (and other types of sensitive assets, such as farmland). In general terms, an overseas person is a non-New Zealand citizen or resident, entity incorporated offshore, or entity incorporated within New Zealand that is more than 25 per cent owned or controlled by overseas persons. It seems likely that the structure described by Te Omeka Pa would meet this aspect of the definition, introducing an additional layer of complexity into the proposal as the proposal would need to go before the Overseas Investment Office. <p>It may be possible for Te Omeka Pa to partner with the Crown in the provision of papakainga housing through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) directly without requiring an international element to the transaction. We would suggest Te Omeka Pa explore this option as a possible next step.</p>	Puna Aronui Trevor Moeke [35]	<p>We recommend that you not proceed with the proposal given its limited benefits for the Crown compared with other equity leveraging avenues, and the complexity of implementation it would entail. We also recommend that Treasury officials advise Te Omeka Pa of your decision.</p> <p>We have indicated it may be possible for Te Omeka Pa to partner with the Crown in the provision of papakainga housing through HUD directly without requiring an international element to the transaction. Treasury plans to connect Te Omeka Pa with HUD in order to further explore this option.</p>

3. Updates to Key Priorities

Updates on issues that relate to key priorities identified by the Minister.

Priority Area	State of Play	Upcoming Advice	Minister's Feedback
COVID-19 response	<p>Business support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications for the Wage Subsidy Scheme (WSSMAR21) closed on Sunday 21 March and applications for the first Resurgence Support Payment (RSPFEB21) closed on 22 March. Applications for the second Resurgence Support Payment (RSPMAR21) will close on 12 April. • Following the commission for further advice on comparator periods and other settings for the Resurgence Support Payment and the Wage Subsidy Scheme, we expect to provide this advice to your office in the week commencing 12 April. <p>Childcare for essential workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have been working with the Ministry of Education on a Joint Ministers paper on the funding mechanism and cost of an essential workers childcare scheme in the event of a move to Alert Level 4. Cabinet agreed [CAB-20-MIN-0531 refers] that you and the Minister of Education would agree the payment rate and funding mechanism. We understand that the estimated cost of a scheme would be \$5.04 million based on 20 childcare hours for 1,800 families over 4 weeks (and up to approximately \$7 million for the same period if 30 hours were offered). <p>Commercial leases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that the Minister of Justice intends to take a paper on commercial leases to DEV on 7 April, which is currently with you for Ministerial consultation. This paper seeks agreement that Government intervention in commercial leases is no longer desirable, to discontinue the voluntary mediation and arbitration service for commercial lease disputes and return \$19 million of unspent funding to the centre. We may provide feedback for Ministerial consultation as anecdotal evidence suggests that rent continues to be an issue for businesses. <p>Immunisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand the Minister for COVID-19 Response and the Minister for Workplace Relations & Safety met with MBIE officials on 24 March to discuss whether to seek Cabinet agreement to legislatively require specified high-risk roles at the border only be carried out by vaccinated workers. Ministers signalled different preferences in response to a joint briefing received 15 March (which was forwarded to your office). If Ministers wish to proceed, we understand the intention is to take a paper direct to Cabinet on 6 April seeking policy agreement, with a further Cabinet paper seeking agreement to introduce legislation on 3 May following a three-week minimum drafting period. • Treasury recommends Ministers do not progress further work on these levers for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The problem to be solved is very small, and regulatory levers do not substantively improve the issue. Voluntary vaccination uptake for border/MIQ workers appears to have been high to date and employers have already extensively redeployed staff where needed (which under employment law requires good faith conversation with employees regardless of whether unvaccinated workers are banned from specified roles). ○ There are significant risks, including to ongoing social licence for the COVID-19 response should the regulation be perceived as unfair, illegal or unjust; and service delivery and workforce sustainability impacts particularly for skillsets that are difficult to backfill. 	<p>Business support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on settings for the Resurgence Support Payment and Wage Subsidy Scheme – due week of 12 April. <p>Childcare for essential workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint advice on childcare for essential workers – due late March. 	

Priority Area	State of Play	Upcoming Advice	Minister's Feedback
	<p>Borders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand that Minister Hipkins will now be lodging the elimination strategy update Cabinet paper for consideration at Cabinet on 29 March. We have been working with DPMC to see if more can be included in the paper on next steps on the border work. We understand that a related paper is also being progressed next week to establish an Independent Group of scientific experts, with Minister Verrall, that can lead the public conversation about re-opening from a scientific perspective. DPMC and the Ministry of Health are coordinating the development of advice on the border strategy. The Treasury is supporting this work. We are focused on agreeing the programme of work and sequencing of advice to support decisions, and the co-ordination of modelling work that will help to inform judgements on border decisions. Provisional commencement of two-way quarantine-free travel with Australia was agreed by Cabinet on Monday. A report back on 6 April will seek approval for a finalised commencement date and seek confirmation of the system of health checks required and approval of associated costs. 		

[33]

Wellbeing approach	<p>Public Finance System reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will be provided with advice on next steps for the cluster spending reviews and priority setting in the week of 5 April. We are currently working with Justice and Natural Resources cluster officials to develop Terms of Reference for the spending reviews. [34] [33] <p>Living Standards Framework Refresh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The annual World Happiness Report was released on 20 March 2021. The report ranks 156 countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be and provides analysis into how social, urban and natural environments affect citizens' happiness. The report showed New Zealand to have the 9th highest average happiness of all countries, compared to a ranking of 8th highest last year. 	<p>Public Finance System reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on next steps for the cluster spending reviews and priority setting – week of 5 April. 	
Climate change mitigation and adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After your meeting with Climate Budget Ministers on 16 March, you have asked the Treasury and agencies for further advice on implementation-ready initiatives that could be considered for addition to the current climate package for Budget 2021. This was provided to you along with overall Budget advice on 19 March. Following your meeting with the Minister for Climate Change on 10 March, officials will work towards preparing a Joint Cabinet paper on a strategic framework for the funding and financing of climate transition, currently scheduled for mid/late April 2021. The shape and focus of this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Cabinet paper on a strategic framework for the funding and financing of climate transition – due on mid/late April 2021. 	

Priority Area	State of Play	Upcoming Advice	Minister's Feedback
	<p>paper will be significantly determined by the final decisions on the Budget 2021 climate package.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet has decided to bring the policy development of the Climate Adaption and Managed Retreat into the ambit of the Ministerial Oversight Group (MOG) on Resource Management Reform. The Treasury will engage with the development of the policy framework through that process and providing briefings to you as required before major decisions are sought from the MOG and Cabinet. 		
Health reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet paper on the proposals for the new system operating model was at SWC on 24 March. The Treasury is working with the DPMC Transition Unit on resolving outstanding issues with the Regulatory Impact Statement. Following your request for further information, we have provided you with an Aide Memoire [T2021/651 refers] providing more detail on the funding sought for health and disability reform through Budget 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint advice, (from the Treasury, MoH and DPMC), on managing DHB financial performance through transition - due April. 	
Infrastructure	<p>The Cabinet paper on the Transmission Gully Interim Review is expected to be lodged this week for consideration at CBC on 29 March. The Treasury is working with your office to determine on which date the Interim Review Report and the related Transmission Gully COVID-19 Proactive Release will be published.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treasury Report: Enable Proposal for Social Housing Internet Service in Christchurch - 25 March 2021. 	
Housing	<p>Supply Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government announced the Housing Acceleration Fund on Tuesday 23 March, comprising an infrastructure fund and additional funding for the Government's Land for Housing Programme. This will be complemented by a Kāinga Ora Land Programme and refocused Residential Development Response Fund. <p>Tax Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government has announced two changes to tax measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extending the bright-line test to 10 years (to be legislated immediately); and limiting the interest deductions available for income earned from residential property. <p>Resource Management Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministerial Oversight Group meeting #5 on 7 April will cover agreement to the May exposure draft content and other public consultation material. It is also planned to cover integration of Te Mana o te Taiao and consider the appropriate way to reflect the Treaty of Waitangi. 	<p>Supply Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report back (with HUD) on the design parameters of the infrastructure fund, including alignment with existing infrastructure processes and ongoing collective Ministerial oversight across central Government alignment. <p>Tax Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation document on interest deductibility and remaining issues regarding the bright-line test. <p>Resource Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform draft papers for MOG - due 26 March 	

Priority Area	State of Play	Upcoming Advice	Minister's Feedback
Housing (continued)	<p>Budget 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eleven bids have been submitted directly relating to housing in Budget 2021. ^[33] <p>The three Māori housing initiatives across Vote Housing and Urban Development and Vote Māori Development will be withdrawn and replaced with a consolidated joint Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK) and MHUD submission. We are yet to see the revised initiative but understand that it will seek \$380 million to deliver approximately 1,000 new places and 700 repaired places over four years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are also waiting on further information on Kāinga Ora's sustainable baseline initiative. Ministers have agreed that the \$3.8b Housing Acceleration Fund will be a charge against the CRRF. We are currently working through the opex and capex profile and how it will be reflected in the forecasts. We will support HUD to report back on the design parameters of the Infrastructure Fund, including alignment with existing infrastructure processes and ongoing collective Ministerial oversight across central Government alignment, and drawdown conditions for the Infrastructure Fund and Large Scale Projects. 	<p>Budget 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on outstanding Budget decisions across all portfolios - due 26 March. 	

4. Key Upcoming Decisions

List of reports requiring decisions from the Minister by 02 April.

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose / action	Deadline for MoF Action	Minister(s) – Primary audience	Team Name and Contact
1.	Draft Budget Ministers 3 Slide Pack	24 March	Following your decisions on the revised draft Budget 2021 package, we provided you with the near-final Budget Ministers 3 slide pack on 24 March. We seek your feedback by 25 March in order for the material to be finalised and sent to Budget Ministers as soon as possible (but no later than 26 March). These Budget Ministers 3 slides will be accompanied by a covering Treasury Report as well as the near-final line-by-line Budget package for Budget Ministers 3. The Budget Ministers 3 meeting will be held on 29 March and will finalise the Budget 2021 package that is presented to Cabinet.	25 March	Minister of Finance	Budget Management Tom Hall [39] Simon Duncan [39]
2.	Infrastructure Funding and Financing (IFF)	24 March	This is a pre-meeting briefing to supporting your meeting with Crown Infrastructure Partners on 24 March. This briefing also seeks agreement to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the use of IFF to fund urban development more broadly, i.e. not just housing only transactions; and that the Crown Infrastructure Partners use its existing IFF appropriation more flexibly in order to progress IFF transactions 		Minister of Finance	Housing & Urban Growth John Beaglehole [39]
3.	Project Tawhaki	25 March	This paper seeks the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> approval of the Associate Minister of Finance to utilise \$16.0 million from the Greater Christchurch Regeneration (GCR) multi-category appropriation (MCA) in Vote Finance to fund the Project Tāwhaki land acquisition and associated costs; your approval to establish a new MCA in Vote Business, Science and Innovation (Vote BSI); and approval of Joint Ministers for a fiscally-neutral adjustment of \$16.0 million between Vote Finance and Vote BSI. 	29 March	Minister of Finance Minister of Research Science and Innovation Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr Woods)	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
4.	BFGS NDTLs (First batch) Execution	25 March	This paper seeks agreement to two Deeds of Indemnity for execution by you. Changes to the Deeds mean the Treasury cannot execute under our Delegation. The details of these two Deeds of Indemnity and the necessary changes have now been agreed with the Non Deposit Taking Lenders.	30 March	Minister of Finance	Business Finance Guarantee Peter Rowe [39]
5.	[33]					
6.	BFGS: Stocktake	25 March	This paper provides advice in relation the future of the BFGS within the context of the wider access to finance work [25]	30 March	Minister of Finance	Business Finance Guarantee

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose / action	Deadline for MoF Action	Minister(s) – Primary audience	Team Name and Contact
			[25]			Peter Rowe [39]
7.	[33]					
8.	Final decisions on amendments to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Bill	25 March	This paper seeks final decisions on the detail of changes to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Bill under Cabinet delegation and provides a final draft of the Treasury's departmental report to FEC for feedback.	30 March	Minister of Finance	Reserve Bank Act Review Team Tamiko Bayliss [39]
9.	February Financial Statements of Government	25 March	This report provides an overview of the Financial Statements of Government as at and for the period ended 28 February 2021.	31 March	Minister of Finance Associate Ministers of Finance	Fiscal Reporting Peter Mora [39] Jayne Winfield [39]
10.	Project 20	25 March	This report provides you with update on discussions with the company and a draft item to table at Cabinet on 22 March 2021 to seek authority to increase an appropriation.	1 April	Minister of Finance Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Parker)	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
11.	Budget Technical Package (and draft Cabinet Paper)	25 March	This report outlines the technical initiatives (fiscally neutral initiatives that do not represent significant policy changes) to be considered by Cabinet as part of the Budget technical package on 6 April and will attach a draft of this Cabinet paper for your agreement to lodge.	1 April	Minister of Finance	Budget Management Tom Hall [39] Simon Duncan [39]
12.	Final Budget Ministers 3 Slide Pack	26 March	This is a slide pack for the Budget Ministers 3 meeting to be held on 29 March. This slide pack will incorporate the feedback that you provide on the draft slides earlier in the week.		Prime Minister Minister of Finance Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr Woods)	Budget Management Tom Hall [39] Simon Duncan [39]
13.	RBNZ review - Implementation approach for deposit insurance and further decisions on bail-in framework	31 March	The Phase 2 review will be seeking decisions from Cabinet in mid-April to begin drafting the Deposit Takers Act. Ahead of the meeting, the Minister has indicated he would like more detail on the implementation approach for deposit insurance and advice on the appropriate scope of the bail-in framework (in light of the decision not to introduce depositor preference).	6 April	Minister of Finance	Reserve Bank Act Review Team Tamiko Bayliss, [39]

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose / action	Deadline for MoF Action	Minister(s) – Primary audience	Team Name and Contact
14.	New Zealand Infrastructure Commission	Week of 29 March	This paper seeks agreement to fees exception for members of NZ InfraCom (Te Waihanga).	31 March	Minister of Finance	Governance and Appointments Gael Webster [39]
15.	Response to the OAG's article on COVID-19 expenditure	week of 5 April	This paper seeks agreement to material on the allocation of CRRF to be published on the Treasury's website. Some of the material has not been made public previously. It will show, at a high level, how CRRF has been allocated to Votes and to different categories of initiatives.	29 March	Minister of Finance	Strategic Performance Improvement Megan Taylor [39]

5. Regular Updates

Lists regular dashboards and other updates the Minister is provided.

	Topic	Timeframe for Briefing	Purpose / Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s)	Treasury Team and Contact
1.	Fiscal Calculator	Every Friday before Cabinet	The Fiscal Calculator summarises the fiscal implications of papers to be considered by Cabinet or Cabinet Committees the following week and includes summary information on the remaining balances of the Between-Budget Contingency (BBC), the Budget 2021 operating allowance, and the multi-year capital allowance, as well as the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (CRRF). An updated tracker of CRRF charges is provided alongside the fiscal calculator each week that a new charge has been recorded.		Minister of Finance	Budget Management Tom Hall [39] Simon Duncan [39]
2.	Weekly Economic Update publication	Every Thursday	This report provides Ministers with updates and relevant information regarding select companies and entities monitored by the Treasury.	Each Friday morning 9:00am excluding Good Friday 2 March – published on Treasury website by 12pm each Friday	Minister of Finance	Forecasting Nairn MacGibbon [39]
3.	Commercial Performance State of Play	Fortnightly (last report on 24 March)	This report provides Ministers with updates and relevant information regarding select companies and entities monitored by the Treasury.		Minister of Finance Associate Ministers of Finance Minister for State Owned Enterprises	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39] Shelley Hollingsworth [39]

6. Upcoming Cabinet Papers

List of Cabinet papers upcoming over 29 March –09 April that Treasury is aware of.

	Ministerial Portfolio (and lead agency)	Title/topic	Treasury View	Timeframe for Cabinet Committee/Cabinet	Team Name and Contact
1.	Minister of Conservation (DOC)	Improving Whitebait Management	This paper seeks agreement to amend the regulations that control white baiting and directs the Department of Conservation to gather further evidence about the current state of the whitebait fishery and inform the public on the overall programme for whitebait management. The Treasury supports this paper.	CBC 29 March	Natural Resources Gwen Rashbrooke [39]
2.	Regional Economic Development (MBIE)	Regional Strategic Partnership Fund: Further implementation decisions	This paper seeks Cabinet agreement to decisions to implement the \$200 million Regional Strategic Partnership Fund (RSPF). It seeks policy decisions on three of five programme streams and proposes to reprioritise \$101.130 million of the PGF to support the PDUs and Crown Regional Holdings Limited operational costs Treasury Supports recommendations 1 – 31 in the paper, which relate to operationalisation of RSPF policies and the activation of the PGFL. The Treasury does not support recommendations relating to PGF reprioritisation and recycling of funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGF reprioritisation: the paper identifies \$101m in savings which are proposed to be redirected towards PDU's ongoing expenses. The Treasury is supportive of the reprioritisation process but suggest the \$101m is directed towards the RSPF, with PDU opex found through MBIE baselines. Fiscal sustainability: the paper seeks agreement for returns for PGFL investments to be ringfenced and recycled into regional investments. This could capture all investments held by PGFL (including those beyond the RED remit). We recommend this is removed from the paper and the issue is considered alongside projects including MBIE's longer term work on access to capital.	CBC 29 March	Transitions, Regions, and Economic Development Ashley Stuart [39] Jean Le Roux [35]
3.	Minister of Immigration (MBIE)	Extending regulation changes to suspend offshore applications to August 2021	This paper seek agreement to the fourth iteration of the regulations which currently restrict the ability of classes of persons offshore to apply for temporary entry class visas, unless invited to apply. Treasury has no concerns with this paper.	CBC 29 March	Skills and Work Nick Carroll [39]
4.	Transport (MoT)	Sustainable Transport Biofuels Mandate – proposed design for public consultation	This paper seeks agreement to the release of a public consultation document introducing the preferred design for a domestic sustainable transport biofuels mandate. The Treasury is still forming its view on the paper.	CBC 29 March	National Infrastructure Unit David Taylor [39]

	Ministerial Portfolio (and lead agency)	Title/topic	Treasury View	Timeframe for Cabinet Committee/Cabinet	Team Name and Contact
5.	Tourism (MBIE)	Support for tourism-reliant communities	<p>This paper seeks agreement to a \$200m support package for communities heavily reliant on international tourism (Queenstown Lakes, Te Anau/Milford/Fiordland, Westland, Mackenzie and Kaikōura). The Treasury has seen a draft of this paper and does not support the paper, [T2021/618 refers].</p> <p>The Treasury sees merit in a support package for distressed regions, but the current draft proposals need further development before agreement and allocation of funding.</p>	CBC 29 March	<p>Transitions, Regions, and Economic Development</p> <p>Alice Ansley [39]</p> <p>Jean Le Roux [35]</p>
6.	Finance (The Treasury)	Productivity Commission Inquiry into Immigration Settings for New Zealand's Long-Term Prosperity and Wellbeing	This Cabinet paper seeks agreement to the Terms of Reference for a Productivity Commission inquiry into immigration settings for New Zealand's long-term prosperity and wellbeing.	CBC 29 March	<p>Economic Strategy</p> <p>Mario DiMaio [39]</p>
7.	Public Service (PSC)	Government Workforce Policy Statement for the public sector	<p>This paper invites the Minister for the Public Service to finalise and issue (subject to Cabinet feedback) a Government Workforce Policy Statement (GWPS) setting out employment relations expectations for the public sector. We support the workforce goals articulated in the proposed GWPS, including targeting pay increases to low-paid workers and supporting the Government's fiscal strategy. Cabinet should note that the Public Service Act 2020 delegates authority to the Public Service Commissioner to issue operational guidance to give effect to any aspect of the proposed statement.</p> <p>We understand the Commissioner intends to issue extended pay restraint guidance as an operational matter under the proposed GWPS, with an indefinite time period. We have not seen a full set of analysis around anticipated benefits and risks, and we recommend you seek assurance on the intended approach to monitoring impacts (including recruitment & retention) and exit strategy given the potential impacts on the Government's work programme.</p>	<p>CBC 29 March</p> <p>CAB 5 April</p>	<p>Skills and Work</p> <p>Nick Carroll [39]</p>
8.	COVID-19 Response (Border Executive Board)	Safe Travel Initiatives: Australia Report Back	This paper seeks approval to commence two-way quarantine-free travel with Australia. It will also seek confirmation of the system of health checks proposed for commencement, and approval for the associated costs, with it suggested that any additional funding is likely to be sought from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund. The Treasury has not yet received a draft of this paper, or any indication of the scale of the associated costs.	CAB 6 April	<p>International</p> <p>Harry Nicholls [39]</p>
9.	Finance (The Treasury)	Budget 2021: Technical Financial Recommendations	This paper seeks Cabinet approval of technical (fiscally neutral and non-controversial) financial recommendations for Budget 2021. This package of initiatives is entirely technical in nature. The process for significant Budget 2021 initiatives is ongoing, and the significant Budget package will be considered by Cabinet on 12 April.	CAB 6 April	<p>Budget Management</p> <p>Tom Hall [39]</p> <p>Simon Duncan [39]</p>

	Ministerial Portfolio (and lead agency)	Title/topic	Treasury View	Timeframe for Cabinet Committee/Cabinet	Team Name and Contact
10.	Commerce and Consumer Affairs (MBIE)	Amendments and regulations to support the new regime for the conduct of financial institutions	<p>This paper seeks approval to release two discussion papers to support the new regime governing the conduct of financial institutions. The papers seek feedback on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> options to address stakeholder concerns on the required oversight of financial intermediaries (e.g. insurance brokers) in the Bill options to regulate sales incentives and minimum requirements with respect to fair conduct programmes. <p>Treasury's initial view is that we are supportive of the proposals to consult with stakeholders and note there are no financial implications arising from this paper. Some further information will be provided to your office as part of the Ministerial consultation process.</p>	DEV 7 April	Financial Markets Leona Feng [39]
11.	Earthquake Commission	On-sold Canterbury Properties - Changes to Repair Costs	The latest forecast for the cost of implementing the On-sold policy has exceeded the current appropriation. This paper seeks agreement to an increase in the appropriation.	DEV 7 April	Commercial Performance Shelley Hollingsworth [39]
12.	Finance (the Treasury)	Project 20	This paper seeks authority to increase an appropriation	DEV 7 April	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
13.	Justice (MoJ)	COVID-19: Report back on further work to resolve commercial lease disputes	This paper seeks agreement that the Government intervention in commercial leases is no longer desirable, to discontinue the voluntary mediation and arbitration service for commercial lease disputes and return \$19 million of unspent funding to the centre. We may provide feedback for Ministerial consultation as anecdotal evidence suggests that rent continues to be an issue for businesses.	DEV 7 April	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
14.	[33]				
15.	Justice (MoJ)	Reforms to the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009 to better target illicit assets	This paper seeks approval to amend the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009 to give courts new powers to respond more effectively to transnational and organised criminal offending. The Treasury has no concerns with the paper.	SWC 7 April	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
16.	Justice (MoJ)	Considering the length of the parliamentary term – cross-party and public engagement	This paper seeks agreement to undertake cross-party and public engagement to gauge attitudes towards increasing the length of the parliamentary term. The proposed public consultation is subject to new funding being made available via Budget 2021. For Ministerial consultation, we suggest that you ask that the paper discusses other potential funding options and/or what approach will be taken if funding is not included in the Budget package.	SWC 7 April	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]

	Ministerial Portfolio (and lead agency)	Title/topic	Treasury View	Timeframe for Cabinet Committee/Cabinet	Team Name and Contact
17.	Women (MfW)	Building Resilience for Women: COVID-19 and Beyond	This paper seeks Cabinet's agreement to a cross-government approach that addresses the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women as part of the Government's wider COVID-19 economic recovery programme. The Treasury is in the process of providing feedback on the proposals made in this paper.	SWC 7 April	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]
18.	Minister for the Environment (MfE)	Additional Proposals to Improve the Availability of Waste Data	This paper proposes developing regulations under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to require additional mandatory reporting of waste data for landfills and transfer stations. The Treasury will brief you further ahead of Cabinet committee as we are still working through the Regulatory Impact Analysis requirements with the Ministry for the Environment.	ENV 8 April	Natural Resources Gwen Rashbrooke [39]
19.	Finance (the Treasury)	Stockton Mine - Acid Mine Drainage Project	The Crown has a 100 year plus liability at Stockton. An Alternative AMD treatment solution is crucial to manage this liability. Cabinet has the ultimate decision on the most appropriate alternative AMD treatment solution for Stockton. We are currently preparing to go to market for potential solutions and require the noting of Cabinet on the proposed approach to ensure that any additional requirements are captured up front and following the conclusion of an EOI process, an alternative can be agreed by Cabinet. The Treasury views this step as crucial to the success of the project.	ENV 8 April	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
20.	Māori Development (Te Puni Kōkiri)	Ngāti Rārua Ātiawa Iwi Trust: Resolution of the perpetual lease issues relating to Whakarewa lands in Motueka	[38]	MCR 13 April	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]
21.	Māori Development (Te Puni Kōkiri)	Māori Purposes Bill draft Cabinet Paper	This paper seeks Cabinet agreement to legislative amendments to a number of statues through a Māori Purposes Bill, an omnibus bill that enables minor, technical, and non-controversial amendments to be made to Māori Development legislation. [33]	MCR 13 April	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]
22.	Māori Development (Te Puni Kōkiri)	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Next Steps for a Declaration Plan	This paper seeks Cabinet agreement to further progress the development of a national plan to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Treasury supports this paper	MCR 13 April	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]

	Ministerial Portfolio (and lead agency)	Title/topic	Treasury View	Timeframe for Cabinet Committee/Cabinet	Team Name and Contact
23.					
24.	Minister of Immigration (MBIE)	Immigration COVID-19 Response Bill - LEG paper and draft Bill	This paper seeks agreement to introduce a bill to extending the duration of the special COVID-19 Immigration powers (and regulations) by two years and extending the maximum duration of any regulations suspending certain classes of offshore applications to six months. Treasury has no concerns.	LEG TBA	Skills and Work Nick Carroll [39]
25.	Children (Oranga Tamariki)	Report Back on the Implementation of Oranga Tamariki Budget 2019 Initiatives	This paper provides an update on the implementation of the OT key Budget 2019 initiatives since July 2019, in line with the agreed framework for Cabinet oversight.	TBC	Welfare and Oranga Tamariki Keiran Kennedy [35]

7. Other Upcoming Reports

List of reports upcoming over a 3 weeks period, from 22 March –09 April not covered above.

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose/Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s) – Primary Audience	Team Name and Contact
1.	Canterbury Multi-Use Arena (CMUA) progress update and Funding Request	22 March	This paper provides an update on Canterbury Multi-Use Arena (CMUA) project progress; ^[37]		Minister of Finance Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr Woods) Minister for Land Information	National Infrastructure Unit Matthew Gilbert ^[39]
2.	Time Limiting the Training Incentive Allowance. (MSD / TSY Joint report)	23 March	This report seeks decisions regarding Ministers' preferred approach to time limiting the Training Incentive Allowance to four years.		Minister of Finance Minister for Social Development and Employment	Welfare and Oranga Tamariki Keiran Kennedy ^[35]
3.	ACC	23 March	This paper seeks agreement to the appointment of ACC directors for APH.		Minister of Finance Minister for ACC	Governance and Appointments Gael Webster ^[39]
4.	^[26] and ^[37]					
5.	Visit to Toll Group on 30 March	25 March	This is a pre-meeting briefing to support your meeting with Toll New Zealand on 30 March. Toll is a major freight operator.	30 March	Minister of Finance	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem ^[39]
6.	Treasury report: Fiscal Strategy for B21 updated for preliminary fiscal forecasts	25 March	This paper advises you on allowance levels and fiscal intentions and objective in the context of the preliminary fiscal forecasts that were finalised on the 23 March.		Minister of Finance	Macroeconomic and Fiscal Policy Angus Hawkins ^[39]
7.	Letter of Expectations for Tupu Tonu - Ngapuhi Investment Fund Ltd	25 March	This Te Arawhiti paper provides a draft Letter of Expectations for Ngapuhi Investment Fund Ltd.	2 April	Minister of Finance Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations	Financial Institutions Joseph Sant ^[39]

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose/Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s) – Primary Audience	Team Name and Contact
8.	Discussion Paper on ACC Fiscal Strategy	25 March	This paper presents indicative levies and how the Funding Policy Statement gives effect to recommended levy rates and seeks a discussion on a fundamental review of ACC fiscal strategy in 2022.		Minister of Finance Minister for ACC	Financial Institutions Joseph Sant [39]
9.	Crown Financial Institutions Monitoring Report – December 2020	25 March	This paper provides a monitoring report on investment risk and performance for the Crown Financial Institutions for the six months, ending December 2020.		Minister of Finance	Financial Institutions Joseph Sant [39]
10.	New Zealand Government Property Corporation – Power of Attorney	25 March	This paper seeks approval of revised powers of attorney to sign documents on behalf of the New Zealand Government Property Corporation in relation to New Zealand House in London.	12 April	Minister of Finance	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
11.	[33]					
12.	Network for Learning	25 March	This paper seeks agreement to the reappointment of directors for APH.		Minister of Finance Minister of Education	Governance and Appointments Gael Webster [39]
13.	Auditor-General's report on the Wage Subsidy	26 March	This paper provides the latest OAG report draft and advise on agencies' proposed action plan in response to the report.	1 April	Minister of Finance Minister for Social Development and Employment Minister of Revenue	Welfare and Oranga Tamariki Keiran Kennedy [35]
14.	Budget Economic and Fiscal Update 2021 – Preliminary Fiscal Forecasts	26 March	This report provides an overview of the Treasury's preliminary fiscal forecasts for the 2021 Budget Economic and Fiscal Update.		Minister of Finance	Fiscal Reporting Hannah Singleton [39] Kamlesh Patel [39]
15.	Delivering the 2021-24 National Land Transport Programme	26 March	This paper seeks direction from the Minister of Transport on how to address revenue pressures in delivering the 2021-24 National Land Transport Programme.	N/A	Minister of Finance Minister of Transport	National Infrastructure Unit David Taylor [39]
16.	Drawing down Contingency for Addressing Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising from COVID-19 (Ministry of Education paper)	week of 22 March	This paper proposes drawing down part of the contingency "COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund for Addressing Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising from the Impact of COVID-19" to reimburse school property contractors who	week of 22 March	Minister of Finance Minister of Education	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose/Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s) – Primary Audience	Team Name and Contact
			incurred additional costs through the impact of COVID-19. The Treasury is working on this paper with the Ministry and will provide advice to your office if required.			
17.	Childcare for Essential Workers at Alert Level 4 <i>(Ministry of Education paper)</i>	week of 22 March	This paper seeks your agreement to the funding mechanism and costs of an essential workers childcare scheme in the event of a move to Alert Level 4. Cabinet agreed the scheme would be re-established in Alert Level 4 and that you and the Minister of Education would agree the rate and funding mechanism and report back to Cabinet. The Treasury supports the paper.	31 March	Minister of Finance Minister of Education	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]
18.	Whakatōhea: Crown Contribution	week of 22 March <i>(paper currently with Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations)</i>	This paper Te Arawhiti seeks Joint Ministers' agreement to make a one-off Crown contribution totalling [38] towards the establishment costs of a body being established through the Whakatōhea Treaty settlement for iwi to manage natural resources alongside local authorities. In line with MCR's recent decision [MCR-21-MIN-0003], these costs will be funded from forecast underspends in 2020/21 from elsewhere in Te Arawhiti baselines. The Treasury is comfortable with this proposal.	12 April	Minister of Finance Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister for the Environment	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
19.	Request to adjust the title and scope statement of Vietnam veterans' appropriation	week of 22 March	This paper seeks Joint Ministers' agreement to adjust the title and scope statement of a non-departmental appropriation that funds medical assessments and ex-gratia payments to Vietnam veterans, so that it now will also fund the monitoring and reporting of trends in their health and wellbeing as originally intended. The Treasury has no concerns with the proposal.	12 April	Minister of Finance Minister for Veterans	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
20.	Request for Fiscally Neutral Adjustments to reflect Operation Protect expenditure	week of 22 March	This paper seeks Joint Ministers' approval for two fiscally neutral adjustments between Vote Defence Force appropriations to reflect forecast expenditure on NZDF's COVID-19 operations in 2020/21 and for 2021/22. The Treasury has no concerns with the proposal.	12 April	Minister of Finance Minister of Defence	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
21.	Delegation of authority to the Minister of Defence to approve certain indemnities and guarantees	week of 22 March	This paper seeks joint Ministers' agreement to recommend the Prime Minister renews an existing delegation of authority to the Minister of Defence to give indemnities and guarantees for certain Defence activities and purchases. The Treasury has no concerns with the proposal.		Minister of Finance Minister of Defence	Justice, Security and Government Services Colin Hall [39]
22.	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Funding and Fees Review Proposals	week of 22 March	This paper provides an update on the Regulatory Funding and Fees Review (following DEV-21-MIN-0015) and seeks the Minister of Transport's input on the preferred funding models and the consultation document. You are being forwarded a copy due the Ministry's proposal to draw on the		Minister of Transport Minister of Finance	National Infrastructure Unit David Taylor [39]

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose/Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s) – Primary Audience	Team Name and Contact
			NLTF via section 9(1A) Land Transport Management Act, which would require decisions by joint Ministers (although a decision on this is not required at this time).			
23.	Draw-down of remaining Budget 2019 contingency funding for WorkSafe Modernisation	31 March	This paper (from the Chair of WorkSafe New Zealand's board) to Joint Ministers seeks draw-down approval of remaining Budget 2019 funding to support WorkSafe's ongoing Modernisation programme. This report advises Ministers on whether to approve the funding, and the detailed steps necessary to support this decision, including approval of an interest-free capital loan, repayable within 10 years.	9 April (before Budget moratorium on 12 April)	Minister of Finance Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety	Skills and Work Nick Carroll [39]
24.	Southern Response	31 March	This paper outlines possible scenarios and timing associated with the Crown funded package for Southern Response policyholders who settled before October 2014.		Minister of Finance Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission	Commercial Performance Shelley Hollingsworth [39]
25.	Integrity of the 39% top personal tax rate	31 March	This paper reports back to Joint Ministers of Finance and Revenue on measures to mitigate integrity risks associated with companies, trusts and PIEs to support the new top personal tax rate. The report also seeks confirmation of a work programme and timeframes to implement the integrity measures.		Minister of Finance Minister of Revenue	Tax Strategy Daniel White [35]
26.	Landcorp - Waitangirua	31 March	This paper seek Ministers' agreement on the expectations associated with the proposed sale of a piece of land currently held under the Protected Land Agreement (PLA), but no longer required for treaty settlements, and provide a draft letter for Ministers to send to the Chair of Landcorp expressing these expectations (which is a requirement under the PLA).	Mid-April	Minister of Finance Associate Minister of Finance (Hon David Parker) Minister for State Owned Enterprises	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
27.	Greater Christchurch Regeneration (GCR) portfolio finances and Otakaro cost pressures	1 April	This paper provides the Ministers with an update on GCR portfolio finances, and outlines funding shortfalls facing Otakaro in the operation of the Te Pae convention centre.	8 April	Minister of Finance Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr Woods) Minister for Land Information	Commercial Performance Maureena van der Lem [39]
28.	Draft Budget 2021 Cabinet Paper	1 April	This paper provides a draft Budget 2021 Cabinet paper for your feedback. This Cabinet paper will be lodged the following week (9 April) for consideration at Cabinet on 12 April.	6 April	Minister of Finance	Budget Management Tom Hall [39] Simon Duncan [39]

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29.	Reserve Bank Act Review – completing the review	1 April	This paper seeks your approval on ongoing arrangements for delivery of policy advice once key policy decisions on the Reserve Bank Act Review have been taken by Cabinet in April.	7 April	Minister of Finance	Reserve Bank Act Review Team Tamiko Bayliss [39]
30.	Investor Confidence Rating – finalise and release the Round 2 tranche 4 results	1 April	This paper seeks agreement that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ICR results for six agencies are final (as communicated to responsible ministers in July 2020), and the Treasury releases these results at a date to be confirmed with the Ministers office. 	12 April	Minister of Finance (agencies are briefing their responsible ministers)	IMAP Grant Petherick [39]
31.	BFGS NDTLs (Second batch) Execution	1 April	This paper presents submission of two Deeds of Indemnity for execution by you as changes to the Deeds mean the Treasury cannot execute under our Delegation. Details of these two Deeds have not yet been finalised with the counter parties and as such are not ready for execution.	6 April	Minister of Finance	Business Finance Guarantee Peter Rowe [39]
32.	Revisions to the Education (School Staffing) Order <i>(Ministry of Education paper)</i>	week of 29 March	This paper proposes changes to the School Staffing Order to be made in 2021, in time for the 2022 school year. These proposals will address a number of inconsistencies between the Staffing Order, current funding policies and the staffing entitlements provided to schools. The proposals do not represent an additional funding requirement but do involve an additional cost of approximately \$1.2 million per annum that can be met from Ministry of Education baselines. The Treasury was consulted on the draft paper and supports its proposals.	week of 29 March	Minister of Finance Minister of Education	Education and Population Agencies Nicky Lynch [39]
33.	TVNZ	week of 29 March	This paper seeks agreement to the shortlisted candidates for the 2021 appointment round.		Minister of Finance Minister for Broadcasting	Governance and Appointments Gael Webster [39]
34.	[1]					
35.	Overseas Investment Act: fees to support new provisions	5 April	This Joint Report with Land Information New Zealand will seek agreement to new fees to accompany provisions of the Overseas Investment Amendment Bill (No 3), when they come into force.	week of 12 April	Associate Minister of Finance (Hon David Parker)	International Ryan Walsh [35]
36.	Proactive Release	6 April	This paper reports to Joint Ministers on materials to be released pertaining to recent Cabinet decision on tax measures.		Minister of Finance Minister of Revenue	Tax Strategy

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						Felicity Barker [35]
37.	CFI Responsible Investment Framework (Report 2)	7 April	This paper provides advice on the best practice approach to achieving Carbon neutrality from the Crown's investment funds and discusses the feasibility of achieving this within the ambition set for public sector carbon neutrality.	14 April	Minister of Finance Minister for ACC	Financial Institutions Joseph Sant [39]
38.	Final economic forecasts for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU) 2021	8 April	This report provides an overview of the Treasury's final economic forecasts for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU), which will underpin the preliminary fiscal forecasts. Changes relative to the preliminary forecasts will be highlighted.		Minister of Finance	Forecasting Team Katy Simpson [39]
39.	Changes to the settlement of aquaculture space in the Hauraki Gulf.	8 April	This paper seeks your agreement to an addendum to the Waikato-East Regional Agreement for aquaculture (that your predecessor was a signatory to) and to a corresponding tax indemnity for the applicable Iwi Aquaculture Organisations. The Addendum provides a settlement for a small amount of new commercial aquaculture space in the region. We will provide a Treasury Report to inform your decisions.	19 April	Minister of Finance	Natural Resources Gwen Rashbrooke [39]
40.	Cluster pilot as part of implementing Public Finance System reform.	week of 5 April	This paper seeks agreement to the process for Cluster spending reviews, priority setting and Budget 2022 as part of implementing Public Finance System reform.	19 April	Minister of Finance	System Design and Strategy John Marney [39]
41.	[33]					
42.	Flexible loss carry back – policy decisions	12 April	This report responds to the Minister of Finance's request for advice on a 'flexible loss carry back' scheme that can be turned on and off in response to economic shocks. The report seeks agreement on whether to introduce such a scheme, the key design features, and notes that there is no fiscal cost until the scheme is activated.		Minister of Finance Minister of Revenue	Tax Strategy Jessica Rowe [35]
43.	Treasury Report: Final tax forecasts for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU) 2021	13 April	This report provides an overview of the Treasury's final tax forecasts for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU), which will underpin the preliminary fiscal forecasts. Changes relative to the preliminary forecasts will be highlighted.		Minister of Finance	Forecasting Team Katy Simpson [39]
44.	Overseas Investment Act: draft LEG paper	21 April	This report provides a draft LEG paper proposing minor and technical amendments to the Overseas Investment Act Regulations 2005.	week of 19 April	Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Parker)	International Harry Nicholls [39]

	Topic	Timeframe	Purpose/Action	Deadline for MoF Action (if any)	Minister(s) – Primary Audience	Team Name and Contact
45.	Proactive release on Reserve Bank Act Review – reports and advice covering period December 2019 – December 2020	April	This is the proactive release of Reserve Bank Act Review reports and advice covering period December 2019 – December 2020. As agreed by you in report (T2020-3484). This information will be made available on the Treasury external website.	TBC	Minister of Finance	Reserve Bank Act Review Team Tamiko Bayliss [39]