

The Treasury

Budget 2022 Information Release

August 2022

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- [1] 6(a) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [23] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [25] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [27] 9(2)(ba)(ii) - 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
- [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;
- [36] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [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
- [40] Out of Scope
- [41] 18(c)(i) - that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment
- [42] 18(d) - information is already publicly available or will be publicly available soon

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Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Finance
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister for Racing



22 October 2021

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister for COVID-19 Response
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Dear Chris

Overview

Thank you for your recent engagement on Budget 2022. I have considered your letter outlining a range of initiatives seeking funding for COVID-19 response activities across your own and other Ministers' portfolios.

We recently agreed to the design and scope of an omnibus funding process for COVID-19 response functions and decided which of the initiatives outlined in your letter should be submitted for this omnibus funding process, Budget 2022, or through separate Cabinet papers (see T2021/2386; DPMC 2021/22-467).

These decisions have been communicated to agencies, and submissions for the omnibus process were due to the Treasury by Friday 22 October. Treasury Vote teams will now begin a light-touch assessment to inform decision-making on the omnibus package. It is expected that Cabinet will consider the omnibus funding paper in November 2021.

This letter confirms the COVID-19 response initiatives that are invited for submission through Budget 2022, as outlined in Annex A. Please note that further initiatives may be invited for funding through Budget 2022 as a result of the omnibus assessment process. These initiatives are due for submission by 10 December 2021.

Information requirements

For consistency across the processes, agencies are required to fill out the omnibus initiative template provided on 11 October, rather than the standard Budget 2022 initiative template. The omnibus template is a more streamlined version of the standard Budget template, with a particular focus on implementation readiness and delivery risk. While full value-for-money analysis does not need to be completed, initiatives must demonstrate a strong case for funding based on robust costings.

I acknowledge that the context of the current outbreak and our wider COVID-19 response continues to evolve, and the assumptions behind initiatives may still be uncertain at the time of submission. Regardless, initiatives should be based on the most up-to-date information possible. While future funding certainty will be necessary in some cases, in others funding decisions may be deferred until further information is available, especially for funding beyond the 2022/23 financial year.

I also expect that initiatives will demonstrate an awareness of interdependencies with initiatives submitted in other portfolios. Where there are related initiatives, Ministers and agencies should collaborate to ensure that a co-ordinated approach is taken.

While these initiatives are being considered through Budget 2022, they may still be funded from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (CRRF) rather than Budget 2022 allowances. Therefore, agencies should be prepared to meet the reporting expectations outlined in the omnibus process guidance provided to agencies on 11 October.

Next steps

The Treasury and Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet will be providing us with joint advice on omnibus initiatives on Friday 5 November, which will include any recommendations for initiatives to be deferred to Budget 2022. In some cases, it may be more appropriate to agree to urgent COVID-19 response funding outside of these processes. I will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis.

Thank you for your ongoing work.

Yours sincerely



Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

Annex 1: Budget 2022 Invitations

Portfolio	Initiative title and CFISnet ID	Financial year	Related initiatives
Customs	13659: Change in Doubtful Debt Provision	2022/23	Funding for 2021/22 being sought through omnibus process
Customs	13644: Offsetting reduction in third-party revenue at the border from Border Clearance Levy	2022/23	N/A
MBIE MIQ	13760: Continuing Managed Isolation and Quarantine operations within New Zealand	2023/24	Funding for 2022/23 being sought through omnibus process
MBIE MIQ	13767: Workforce costs – frontline staff allowances	2023/24	Funding for 2021/22 and 2022/23 being sought through omnibus process
MBIE MIQ	13766: Workforce costs – new roles to strengthen the security presence in MIQFs	2023/24	Funding for 2021/22 and 2022/23 being sought through omnibus process or separate Cabinet paper
MBIE MIQ	Not yet entered in CFISnet: Security equipment and enhancements for MIQ	2023/24	Funding for 2021/22 and 2022/23 being sought through omnibus process
MBIE MIQ	13776: Contingency for improving Infection Prevention Control (filtration devices)	2022/23	Funding for 2021/22 being sought through omnibus process

MBIE MIQ	13775: Contingency for improving Infection Prevention Control (ventilation)	2022/23	Funding for 2021/22 being sought through omnibus process
MBIE MIQ	13781: Delivery of MIQ short stay services	2021/22 and 2022/23	N/A
MBIE MIQ	13778: Developing upgrades to the Managed Isolation Allocation System (MIAS)	2021/22 and 2022/23	N/A
MBIE MIQ	13779: Integration of MIQ system with border work-stream	2021/22 and 2022/23	N/A
MBIE MIQ	13765: Workforce costs – to replace NZDF roles in MIQ	2023/24	Funding for 2021/22 and 2022/23 being sought through omnibus process or separate Cabinet paper
Transport	13859: Maintaining International Air Connectivity (MIAC) scheme	2022/23	Out-of-cycle – separate paper seeking funding for 2021/22 in January/February
Transport	13958: COVID-19 impact on Waka Kotahi regulatory activities	2021/22	N/A
Transport	13854: Maintaining Essential Transport Connectivity (ETS) scheme	2021/22 and 2022/23	N/A

Transport	13944: Resourcing MoT's C-19 response programme, including administering MIAC and ETS schemes, wider response & Reconnecting New Zealanders work programme	2022/23	Funding for 2021/22 being sought through omnibus process
Transport	13948: Extending Government support to Maritime NZ to deliver core regulatory functions	2022/23	N/A
Transport	13945: Extending Government support to the CAA (including Aviation security) to deliver core aviation safety and security obligations	2022/23	N/A
[33]			
Workplace Relations & Safety	13909: Cost pressures for Worksafe's COVID-19 Enforcement function	2022/23 [33]	Funding for 2021/22 being sought through omnibus process