

The Treasury

Budget 2011 Information Release

Release Document

June 2011

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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] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [2] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [3] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [4] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [5] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [6] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [7] 6(a) - to prevent prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [8] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [9] 6(c) - to prevent prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial
- [10] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [11] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice.

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Official Information Act has been made, as listed above. For example, an [8] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(h).

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.



Cabinet Business Committee

CBC Min (11) 3/7

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Minute of Decision

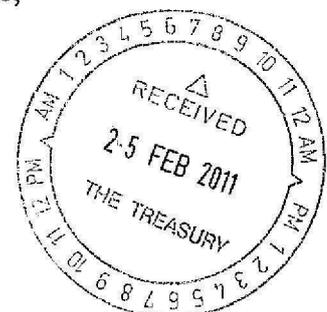
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Wellington Metro Rail Package

Portfolio: Transport

On 24 February 2011, the Cabinet Business Committee:

- 1 **noted** the broad direction of the Wellington metro rail package (the package), as outlined in the submission under EGI (11) 22;
- 2 **noted** the in-principle agreements that have been reached between the Minister of Transport and the Chair of the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC);
- 3 **noted** that further negotiations are taking place between the Crown and GWRC officers on resolving key issues;
- 4 **authorised** the Minister of Transport to proceed with the negotiation of the package, which will, in effect, commit the Crown to additional capital funding of \$88.4 million over a period of eight years to invest in KiwiRail Group's rail network infrastructure in the Wellington region;
- 5 **noted** that the additional funding will need to be confirmed in the Budget 2011 process, and that Treasury has received a budget bid of \$88.4 million over eight years;
- 6 **authorised** a group of Ministers comprising the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, the Minister for State Owned Enterprises and the Minister of Transport to give final approval to the package, when negotiations are complete;
- 7 **noted** that the package will have significant implications for the KiwiRail Group Board, the New Zealand Transport Agency and GWRC, all of which will be responsible for decisions essential to concluding the package;
- 8 **noted** that, to the extent that the package impacts upon KiwiRail Group's balance sheet, decisions on this will come to Cabinet as part of a wider exercise that is being led by Treasury on possible changes to KiwiRail Group's capital structure;



- 9 **noted** that the GWRC is required under legislation to publicly consult with ratepayers and rail passengers in March 2011, and that the government's communications will be coordinated with the GWRC.

Committee Secretary

Reference: EGI (11) 22

Present:

Hon Tony Ryall (Chair)
Hon Dr Nick Smith
Hon Anne Tolley
Hon Christopher Finlayson
Hon Steven Joyce
Hon Georgina te Heuheu
Hon Paula Bennett
Hon Phil Heatley

Officials present from:

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet