

# 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.

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



## Office of Hon Bill English

MP for Clutha-Southland  
Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Finance  
Minister for Infrastructure

**29 MAR 2011**

Hon Dr Pita Sharples  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6160

Dear Pita

I am writing to communicate my decisions on the final package for Budget 2011.

In early February you forwarded to me the resubmitted Four-year Budget Plan prepared by Te Puni Kōkiri.

Budget Ministers have met a number of times in the last few weeks to discuss specific proposals, how they fit into the overall Budget package, and how we will meet the costs of the Canterbury earthquakes.

Following those discussions, I have decided that all of the proposals in the Four-year Budget Plan involving re-prioritisation of existing baseline funding within Vote Māori Affairs should be accepted.<sup>[2]</sup>

[2]

As mentioned in my letter to you of 20 December 2010, there is no Budget 2011 allocation for most votes, including Vote Māori Affairs. More recently the Prime Minister has announced that there will be no net increase at all in operating spending in Budget 2011 – that is, any new initiatives will be agreed only where these can be funded through offsetting reductions elsewhere. [2]

I understand that the Minister for Social Development and Employment has agreed to provide the Minister Responsible for Whānau Ora with \$20 million of funding over four years (i.e. \$5 million per annum) from Vote Social Development baselines for the expansion of the Whānau Ora programme. [2]

I intend to take the final Budget package to Cabinet on 11 April. Estimates documents will be due a few days later.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill English', written in a cursive style.

Hon Bill English  
**Minister of Finance**