

The Treasury

Budget 2020 Information Release

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Cabinet Document Details

Title: **Cabinet Minute CAB-20-MIN-0155.07: 2020 Budget Package: Vote Conservation**

Date: **6 April 2020**

Creator: Cabinet Office

Information Withheld

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

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 may have been withheld:

- [1] 6(a) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the government
- [2] 6(b)(i) - to avoid prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government
- [4] 6(c) - to avoid prejudice to the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial
- [11] 6(e)(vi) - to prevent serious damage to the economy of New Zealand by disclosing prematurely decisions to change or continue government economic or financial policies relating to the entering into of overseas trade agreements
- [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
- [26] 9(2)(ba)(i) - 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 to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied
- [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
- [29] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand

- [31] 9(2)(f)(ii) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- [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
- [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] not in 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.

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Act has been made, as listed above. For example, a [23] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(a).

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Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

2020 Budget Package: Vote Conservation

On 6 April 2020, Cabinet:

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2020 Budget package, as listed in the summary below and detailed in the attached initiative documents;

Summary of initiatives included in the attached initiative documents:

Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
11897	Ngai Tai Supreme Court Decisions	-	1.367	1.556	1.355	3.624*
11880	Remuneration and Rental Cost Pressures	-	3.800	3.800	3.800	3.800
Total Operating		-	5.167	5.356	5.155	7.424

* This initiative includes a profile for funding until 2028/2029, see below for details

- 2 **approved** changes to appropriations to implement the initiatives, as set out in the attached initiative documents;
- 3 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Appropriation Minister (joint Ministers) to approve jointly any technical adjustments to baselines necessary to remove any errors or inconsistencies identified while finalising the 2019/20 Supplementary Estimates, the 2020/21 Estimates and the fiscal forecasts;
- 4 **authorised** the chief executives of departments that monitor Crown entities directly affected by decisions in this minute to inform the chair and/or chief executive of a Crown entity, on a budget-in-confidence-until-budget-day basis, of decisions that directly affect that Crown entity for the purpose of planning and preparation of their Statement of Intent;
- 5 **noted** that all communications relating to the 2020 Budget are co-ordinated by a Budget communications committee, and that any requests for early announcement must have the written approval of the Minister of Finance and the Office of the Prime Minister;

- 6 **agreed** that the initiatives in the following table be set aside as contingency items, that corresponding funding for them be a charge against the Budget 2020 operating allowance and the multi-year capital allowance, and that they be submitted to joint Ministers for consideration at a later stage;

Operating Contingency

Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
Southern South Island Flood Recovery	-	1.163	0.919	1.048	1.080
Total Operating	-	1.163	0.919	1.048	1.080

Capital Contingency

Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
Southern South Island Flood Recovery	-	3.810	2.858	2.858	-
Total Capital	-	3.810	2.858	2.858	-

- 7 **authorised** the Minister of Finance jointly with the Minister of Conservation to draw down from the “Southern South Island Flood Recovery contingency”, subject to the completion of an action plan.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Vote: Conservation

Title: Ngai Tai Supreme Court Decisions

Description: This funding will enable the Department of Conservation (DOC) to address the cost pressures on the policy, operations and regulatory arms of DOC, created by the decisions of the Supreme Court in 2019 relating to Ngai Tai ki Tamaki Tribal Trust v Minister of Conservation.

Appropriation changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Operating Balance Impact	-	1.367	1.556	1.355	3.624
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1.367	1.556	1.355	3.624
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	3.624	3.624	1.355	1.355	1.355
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3.624	3.624	1.355	1.355	1.355

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Policy Advice, Statutory Planning, and Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expense:</i>					
Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (funded by revenue Crown)	-	1.367	1.556	1.355	3.624
Total Operating	-	1.367	1.556	1.355	3.624
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Policy Advice, Statutory Planning, and Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expense:</i>					
Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (funded by revenue Crown)	3.624	3.624	1.355	1.355	1.355
Total Operating	3.624	3.624	1.355	1.355	1.355

Vote: Conservation

Title: Remuneration and Rental Cost Pressures

Description: This funding will enable DOC to cover non-discretionary cost pressures including: salary increases resulting from current pay bargaining and annual performance reviews (inclusive KiwiSaver/ACC).

Appropriation changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact	-	3.800	3.800	3.800	3.800
Debt Impact	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	3.800	3.800	3.800	3.800

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Conservation with the Community (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.479	0.479	0.479	0.479
Crown Contribution to Regional Pest Management (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021
Management of Historic Heritage (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.066
Management of Natural Heritage (funded by revenue Crown)	-	1.702	1.702	1.702	1.702
Management of Recreational Opportunities (funded by revenue Crown)	-	1.431	1.431	1.431	1.431
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Policy Advice, Statutory Planning, and Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expenses:</i>					
Policy Advice (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071
Total Operating	-	3.800	3.800	3.800	3.800