

The Treasury

Budget 2026 Information Release

September 2026

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- The Budget website from September 2026 to May 2027 only at: <https://budget.govt.nz/information-release/2026>, and on
- The Treasury website from later in 2026 at: <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/budgets/budget-2026-information-release>

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 has 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
- [7] 6(e)(ii) - 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 regulation of banking or credit
- [12] 7(a)(i) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the self-governing State of the Cook Islands
- [13] 7(a)(ii) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the self-governing State of Niue
- [14] 7(a)(iii) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of Tokelau
- [15] 7(a)(iv) - to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of the Ross Dependency
- [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

- [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
- [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] 18(c)(i) - that the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment
- [41] 18(d) - information requested is or will soon be publicly available

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.

Budget 2026 Package: Vote Foreign Affairs

On 7 May 2026, Cabinet:

Appropriation Administrator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

- 1 **approved** the Budget initiatives for the above Vote for inclusion in the 2026 Budget package, as listed in the summary table below and detailed in the attached initiative documents:

Summary of initiatives:

Operating Initiatives (Impact on Operating Balance)

Initiative ID	Initiative Name	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
17209	International Development Cooperation to Support the Resilience of the Indo-Pacific Region in a Changing Global Context	-	-	36.590	36.580	36.580
17181	Pacific Islands Forum 2027 – Hosting Costs	-	5.000	15.000	-	-
17107	Protecting a Resilient, Safe, and Secure Offshore Diplomatic Network for New Zealand	-	14.570	30.290	45.210	55.180
Total Operating		-	19.570	81.880	81.790	91.760

Diana Hawker
Acting Secretary of the Cabinet

Vote: Foreign Affairs

Appropriation Administrator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Title: International Development Cooperation to Support the Resilience of the Indo-Pacific Region in a Changing Global Context

Description: This initiative provides funding for development cooperation and humanitarian assistance to countries in the Pacific and Indo-Pacific regions. In a changing global context, International Development Cooperation (IDC) bolsters the resilience of New Zealand's regional partners to economic, social, environmental, and security shocks. Investing in regional resilience benefits New Zealand's national security and foreign policy priorities. This initiative includes work in the Pacific to address trans-boundary security issues, strengthen the private sector, provide key infrastructure, and support democratic institutions and effective governance. It also increases New Zealand's influence in the region, supporting strategic goals.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact*	-	-	36.590	36.580	36.580
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	36.590	36.580	36.580

* Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Other Expenses:					
International Development Cooperation	-	-	33.340	33.330	33.330
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expenses:</i>					
Management of New Zealand's International Development Cooperation (funded by revenue Crown)	-	-	3.250	3.250	3.250
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)	-	-	3.250	3.250	3.250
Total Operating	-	-	36.590	36.580	36.580

Vote: Foreign Affairs

Appropriation Administrator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Title: Pacific Islands Forum 2027 – Hosting Costs

Description: This initiative provides funding for multi-agency costs associated with New Zealand's hosting of the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' week in 2027. This will see New Zealand hosting 17 Pacific Leaders, and up to 30 other high-level country and international organisation delegations, with approximately 1,500 delegates in total.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact*	-	5.000	15.000	-	-
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	5.000	15.000	-	-

* Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expenses:</i>					
Representation and advocacy on New Zealand's foreign policy (funded by revenue Crown)	-	5.000	15.000	-	-
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)	-	5.000	15.000	-	-
Total Operating	-	5.000	15.000	-	-

Vote: Foreign Affairs

Appropriation Administrator: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Title: Protecting a Resilient, Safe, and Secure Offshore Diplomatic Network for New Zealand

Description: This initiative provides funding for interventions that will protect New Zealand's frontline diplomatic and trade network. In particular, funding will avoid the need to reduce the size of New Zealand's modest offshore network, improve the security of information technology systems, increase the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's preparedness for crisis response, and enable the Ministry to respond to emerging strategic issues.

Appropriation Changes

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Operating Balance Impact*	-	14.570	30.290	45.210	55.180
Net Core Crown Debt Impact Only	-	-	-	-	-
No Impact	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	14.570	30.290	45.210	55.180

* Unless non-cash, will also impact net core Crown debt.

	\$m - increase/(decrease)				
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)					
<i>Departmental Output Expenses:</i>					
Analysis and advice to inform New Zealand's foreign policy (funded by revenue Crown)	-	2.600	5.300	8.000	9.700
Deliver consular, business and diplomatic support services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	2.100	4.400	6.600	8.000
Management of New Zealand's International Development Cooperation (funded by revenue Crown)	-	2.500	5.200	7.800	9.500
Representation and advocacy on New Zealand's foreign policy (funded by revenue Crown)	-	7.370	15.390	22.810	27.980
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Act in the world to build a safer, more prosperous and more sustainable future for New Zealanders (MCA)	-	14.570	30.290	45.210	55.180
Total Operating	-	14.570	30.290	45.210	55.180