

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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Vote Health – Digital Services – Cyber Security – Core Security Services

Vote	Health								
Initiative ID	17299								
Initiative Title	Digital Services – Cyber Security – Core Security Services								
Contact details								[23]	
	Allyn Robins				Analyst				
	Jill Caughey				Acting Manager				
Issue / advice sought	A paper seeking approval for the business case associated with this budget bid passed through Cabinet Business Committee (CBC) on Monday 16 th March, at the indicative cost of \$153.6m over the forecast period.								
	Maintaining the security of Health NZ’s core cyber systems is necessary to ensure the viability and stability of the health system itself. However, agencies such as GCISO and IR raised concerns about Health NZ’s apparent lack of effective alignment with all-of-government digital frameworks and the absence of a long-term plan to manage future cybersecurity costs.								
	As such, Treasury’s Budget recommendation is to fund the scaled option (focused on maintaining current security settings at the cost of \$25.5m p.a.) for one year, with a direction that Health NZ and the Ministry of Health develop plans to align with systems work led by NCSC and GCDO and to manage cybersecurity costs long term ^[33] This recommendation is reflected in the current Budget package.								
Treasury advice	While the CBC paper noted that the business case will be adjusted if necessary to fit the final funding provided at Budget 2026, its passage through CBC may have created the expectation that it will be fully funded. We recommend you confirm the level of funding you wish to provide in Budget 2026 and communicate this to your colleagues so that they are able to prepare accordingly.								
Treasury recommendation	Indicate if you wish to:								
	• Retain the limited funding currently reflected in the Budget package (Treasury preferred): Yes/No • Fully fund this initiative (Minister of Health preferred): Yes/No • Fund the scaled option on an ongoing basis (potential compromise position): Yes/No								
	Communicate this decision to the Minister of Health and other colleagues.								
	Fiscal impacts of each option								
	Option	ID	Operating (\$m)						Total Capital (\$m)
			25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	Total	
	Current status in package		-	-	25.5	-	-	25.5	-
Full funding		-	34.2	39.8	39.8	39.8	153.6	-	
Compromise		-	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	102	-	