The Treasury

Budget 2026 Information Release

September 2026

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- 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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Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance
Minister for Economic Growth
Minister for Social Investment

5 May 2026

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Health
Parliament Buildings

Dear Simeon,

Thank you for our constructive discussion at the Health Budget 2026 bilateral on 10 March. This letter follows our agreement in that meeting that Health New Zealand will be exempted from the capital charge regime under the Crown Entities Act 2004 from the start of the 2026/27 financial year.

In accordance with section 166(1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004 and section 48 of the Legislation Act 2019; I am enclosing a notification that Health New Zealand is no longer subject to a capital charge as of 1 July 2026. [33]

I delegated to Treasury my requirement to consult with Health New Zealand in accordance with section 166(5)(a) prior to giving this notification. Health New Zealand is supportive of the proposal and sought clarity on the clarity on calculation of the amount that will be removed from the entity's 2026/27 revenue as a result.

I understand an amount of $660.159m has since been agreed with Health New Zealand, the Ministry of Health and the Treasury, and this return will be transacted through the 2026 Budget package. Given this reduction in Health NZ's revenue will be visible in the Estimates and other public facing documents, I ask that the Ministry and Health NZ prepare lines to explain this change.

I will present a copy of the enclosed notification to the House of Representatives as soon as is practicable in accordance with section 166(5)(b) of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance

cc Professor Lester Levy, Board Chair, Health New Zealand
Dr Dale Brambley, Chief Executive, Health New Zealand
Audrey Sonerson, Director-General and Chief Executive, Ministry of Health

Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand | +64 4 817 6801 | n.willis@ministers.govt.nz

NOTIFICATION UNDER CROWN ENTITIES ACT 2004 OF DISAPPLYING CAPITAL CHARGE TO HEALTH NEW ZEALAND

I, the Minister of Finance, hereby notify Health New Zealand that, with effect from the 1 July 2026, it will be no longer subject to a capital charge under section 166 of the Crown Entities Act 2004, and any earlier notification to Health New Zealand as to a capital charge applying, under section 166(1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004, is revoked.

Dated this 2 day of May 2026

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance