

Reference: 20240344



10 June 2024

Matthew Hooton  
fyi-request-26712-9e51b1e3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Matthew

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 10 May 2024. You requested the following:

- 1. Under the Official Information Act, I request all advice to ministers or their staff prepared since the formation of the Coalition Government on the probable inflationary effects of personal-tax cuts (defined broadly to include increased Working for Families tax credits, adjustments to income-tax thresholds and other matters mentioned in the National Party tax policy for the 2023 election referred to in the National-Act and National-NZ First Coalition agreements), compared with reducing the operating, OBEGAL and/or core Crown residual cash deficits by the same amount as the fiscal impact of any personal-tax cuts.*
- 2. I understand from the Minister of Finance's recent speech that advice is being prepared on the probable inflationary effects of personal-tax cuts compared with maintaining or increasing core Crown expenses by the same amount as the fiscal impact of any personal-tax cuts. Please do not confuse my request with that quite different work.*
- 3. Nevertheless, it seems to me that, in the interests of increasing progressively the availability of official information to the people of New Zealand in order to enable their more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and to promote the accountability of Ministers of the Crown and officials, and thereby to enhance respect for the law and to promote the good government of New Zealand, it would be highly desirable for the information I have requested in 1 above not to be publicly released any later than the information referred to in 2 above. In practice, I suspect that means it should be released on or before Budget Day.*
- 4. Thank you in anticipation of your prompt and professional response to this request as soon as reasonably practicable as required by law.*

Subsequent to the initial request, you asked to receive the requested information by 29 May 2024. I have determined that this response by the statutory deadline is appropriate, given the Budget-sensitive nature of the relevant document and that the relevant document is scheduled to be proactively released.

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<https://treasury.govt.nz>

The following information is covered by your request and will be proactively released on the Treasury website following the Budget:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Website Address</b>
1.	4 April 2024	Aide Memoire: inflationary impact of PIT package	<a href="https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/other-official-information/information-releases">https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/other-official-information/information-releases</a>

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the document listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Ben Gaukrodger  
**Manager, Macroeconomic and Fiscal Policy**