

Reference: 20240349

7 June 2024

Mike Roe  
fyi-request-26768-17c14e45@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mike

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 14 May 2024. You requested:

*Under the Official Information Act, please provide the following information:*

*In the Minister of Finance's 2024 pre-Budget speech, she indicated that proposed tax cuts would not add to net core crown debt as a result of cost savings. Can you please advise, in relation to the modeling and calculations used to produce the estimates of cost savings noted in her speech:*

*1) Was the reduction in public sector permanent staff headcount included in the estimated cost savings? If so, what was the total the estimated savings from this reduction? If not, why not?*

*2) Was the cost of redundancy payments to public sector staff factored into the modeling of cost savings? If so, what is the estimated cost? If not, why not?*

*3) Was any anticipated change in the total gross cost of contractors and consultants to the public sector factored into the modeling of cost savings? If so, what is the estimated change? If not, why not?*

*4) What time horizons were modelled for, and were changes to public sector headcount and contractor and consultant spend factored in at different time horizons? If so, what is the estimated amount for each, at each time horizon? If not, why not?*

*5) Please provide a copy of any briefings, reports, and documents provided to the Minister of Finance's office that specifically reference:*

- Estimated cost-saving amounts and sources;*
- Uncertainty in estimates and trade-offs of cost-savings*

## Information publicly available

With the Minister of Finance having now released Budget 2024, the Treasury will now undertake a large proactive release of budget information that when ready, will first become available on the budget website <https://budget.govt.nz/> and soon after on the Treasury website <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/budgets>.

The information you have requested will become publicly available as part of the Budget 2024 proactive release. Accordingly, I have refused your request for the information under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act:

- the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Some sensitive information may be removed from the documents when they are published, but the grounds for these removals will be described in the documents.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) 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

Stephen Bond  
**Manager, Budget**