



Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister of Finance
Minister for Infrastructure

24 JUL 2017

James Cone
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Dear James

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 24 June 2017. You requested:

"I have been informed, under Chatham House rules, that bids for new funding in Budget 2017 were considered under two tracks, where approvals in "track one" were limited by operating allowances for increased spending, and approvals in "track two" were not.

On this account, there may some correlation between "track two" and the social investment approach.

If the words "track one" and "track two" match the names used in the preparation of the budget, please confirm this and state the number of tracks. If the names "track one" and "track two" were not used, please provide a list of names for the sets of criteria, where a budget bid would have to meet at least one set of criteria, in order to be approved.

In so far as there are sets of criteria which do not include lying within operating allowances, please outline each such set of criteria."

I can confirm that there were two tracks in Budget 2017. Track 1 was for social investment initiatives and Track 2 covered all other initiatives. Information on the assessment and criteria for Track 1 is covered by the documents set out in the table below.

Information Publicly Available

The Treasury have pro-actively released Budget 2017 documents on its website on Friday 14 July. This includes the following documents relevant to your request:

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	6 December 2016	Track 1 and the Investment Threshold	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/informationreleases/budget/2017
2.	10 March 2017	Track 1 Advice	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/informationreleases/budget/2017

3.	17 March 2017	Further advice on Track 1	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/informationreleases/budget/2017
4.	17 March 2017	The Social Investment Panel's Report on Track 1	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/informationreleases/budget/2017

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act – the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

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

Yours sincerely



Steven Joyce
Minister of Finance