



8 April 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), transferred to me from the Treasury on 11 March 2025. You requested the following (numbered for ease of response):

1. *BN2025/005: Advance Draft of Departmental Report to Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024–25, Emergency Response, and Remedial Measures) Bill*
2. *IR2025/019: Revised Cabinet paper - Student Loan Scheme Repayment Threshold*
3. *BN2025/017: US Presidential Memo concerning the Global Minimum Tax*
4. *Status Report 25SR01: Weekly Status Report*
5. *BN2025/026: 30 January meeting with Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector*
6. *BN2025/020: DTC regime regulatory stewardship review findings*
7. *IR2025/010: Tax monitoring report: Collections to December 2024*
8. *BN2025/031: 2025-26 Student loan repayment threshold*

Information being released

I am releasing items 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 8 in **Table 1** below, with some information withheld or refused under the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons,
- 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials,
- 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty,
- 18(c)(i) – where making the requested information available would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment, namely Inland Revenue’s confidentiality obligations in section 18(1) of the Tax Administration Act 1994, and
- 18(d) – that the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Table 1: Items released in part

Item	Date	Document	Decision
1.	15/01 /2025	BN2025/005 Advance Draft of Departmental Report to Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024-25 Emergency Response and Remedial Measures) Bill	Released with redactions under section 9(2)(a). Attachment withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i). The final version of this attachment is publicly available: taxpolicy.ird.govt.nz/-/media/project/ir/tp/publications/2025/departmental-report-emergency-response-bill.pdf?modified=20250227004606
2.	22/01 /2025	IR2025/019 Revised Cabinet Paper Student Loan scheme Repayment Threshold	Released with redactions under section 9(2)(a). Attachment refused under section 18(d), publicly available: taxpolicy.ird.govt.nz/-/media/project/ir/tp/publications/2025/ir-cab-25-sub-0012.pdf?modified=20250312212547&modified=20250312212547
4.	24/01 /2025	25SR01 Weekly Status Report	Released with redactions under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i) and 18(c)(i).
6.	27/01 /2025	BN2025/020 DTC regime regulatory stewardship review findings	Released with redactions under section 9(2)(a). Attachment refused under section 18(d), publicly available: taxpolicy.ird.govt.nz/publications/2025/rs-dtc-regime
7.	28/01 /2025	IR2025/010 Tax monitoring report – December 2024	Released with redactions under section 9(2)(a).
8.	31/01 /2025	BN2025/031 Student loan repayment threshold	Released with redactions under section 9(2)(a).

Information withheld

I am withholding item 3, *US Presidential Memo concerning the Global Minimum Tax*, in full under section 6(a) of the OIA, as the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

I am withholding item 5, *30 January meeting with Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector*, in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA.

As required by section 9(1) of the OIA, I have considered whether the grounds for withholding the information requested is outweighed by the public interest. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

Right of review

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you can ask an Inland Revenue review officer to review my decision. To ask for an internal review, please email the Commissioner of Inland Revenue at: commissionerscorrespondence@ird.govt.nz.

Alternatively, under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you choose to have an internal review, you can still ask the Ombudsman for a review.

Publishing of OIA response

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website (ird.govt.nz) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Josh Green
Domain Lead, Governance and Ministerial Services

Briefing note

Reference: BN2025/005

Date: 15 January 2025

To: Revenue Advisor, Minister of Finance – Emma Grigg
Revenue Advisor, Minister of Revenue – Angela Graham
Private Secretary, Minister of Revenue – Helen Kuy

From: Joshua Fowler
Damien Mancer

Subject: **Advance Draft of Departmental Report to Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024–25, Emergency Response, and Remedial Measures) Bill**

Purpose

1. This briefing note provides you with an advance draft of the departmental report to the Finance and Expenditure Committee on submissions on the Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024–25, Emergency Response, and Remedial Measures) Bill (the Bill).

Background

2. The Bill is currently being considered by the FEC.
3. To assist the FEC in its consideration of the Bill, we are required to provide it with our departmental report by **17 January 2025**. A draft version of the departmental report is attached to this note.

Departmental report

4. The departmental report provides the FEC with a summary of the submissions on the Bill. The report also contains commentary by officials on submissions as well as recommendations on whether they should be accepted by the FEC. We anticipate that any further changes to the departmental report will be largely stylistic in nature.
5. Recommendations that would result in material changes to the Bill's content (including new remedial items suggested by officials) received Ministerial approval in an earlier series of reports (IR2024/259, IR2024/274, IR2024/396, IR2024/397 and IR2024/467 refer). The report IR2024/397 also discussed relevant submissions which we do not recommend be accepted by the FEC.

Next steps

6. As noted above, officials will provide FEC with a finalised departmental report on 17 January 2025. A copy of the final report will also be provided to Ministers on this date.

7. We expect the FEC will report back to the House in late February. The Minister of Revenue has agreed to propose additional changes to the Bill via an Amendment Paper during the Committee of the whole House stage.
8. We expect to seek approval from the Minister of Revenue to include additional items in the Amendment Paper in February 2025.

Consultation with the Treasury

9. The Treasury was informed of this briefing note.

Joshua Fowler

Bill Manager

s 9(2)(a)

POLICY AND REGULATORY STEWARDSHIP

Tax policy report: Revised Cabinet paper - Student Loan Scheme Repayment Threshold

Date:	22 January 2025	Priority:	High
Security level:	Sensitive - Budget	Report number:	IR2025/019 METIS 1342037

Action sought

	Action sought	Deadline
Minister of Revenue	Agree to recommendations Refer this report to the Minister of Finance for their information Lodge the enclosed Cabinet paper by 9:00 a.m., 23 January 2025	9:00 a.m., 23 January 2025
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills	Agree to recommendations	9:00 a.m., 23 January 2025

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone
Carolyn Elliott	Policy Lead	s 9(2)(a)
Josh Fowler	Senior Policy Advisor	s 9(2)(a)
Ella Patterson	Policy Advisor	
Mary Dooley	Acting Senior Policy Manager, Ministry of Education	s 9(2)(a)

22 January 2025

Minister of Revenue
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills

Revised Cabinet paper - Student Loan Scheme Repayment Threshold

1. On 15 January 2025 we provided you with further information about the financial implications of adjusting the student loan repayment threshold and includes a revised Cabinet paper for your consideration (IR2025/006 | METIS 1341754 refers).
2. Following this advice, the Minister of Finance requested the Cabinet paper should be revised to propose the student loan repayment threshold be frozen at the current income level of \$24,128 per annum for the foreseeable future.
3. This report provides you with further information about the process for freezing the repayment threshold and a revised cabinet paper for your consideration.

Fiscal implications

4. As outlined in previous advice (IR2025/006 | METIS 1341754 refers) the savings associated with a one-off freeze of the repayment threshold include an operating saving of \$7.674 million over 5 years and a one-off increase in the value of the student loan asset of around \$13.017 million in 2024/25.
5. Given time constraints, it has not been possible to provide comprehensive costings of an indefinite freeze of the repayment threshold. A very vague indication would be that freezing the domestic repayment threshold indefinitely would increase the value of the student loan book by between \$50 - \$100 million and have ongoing annual savings of between \$5 to \$20 million. No modelling has been undertaken and we have low confidence in these estimates.
6. The currently agreed approach to manage the financial impacts of student loans outside Budget allowances. The Cabinet paper proposes authorising the Minister of Finance to determine allowance treatment as part of developing Budget 2025.
7. Officials from the Ministry of Education will lead in providing advice on fiscal implications of the proposed policy change for Budget 2025.

Implications for Cabinet and payroll providers

8. We should also note that payroll providers require at least six weeks' notice of changes to the specifications. Inland Revenue will communicate the changes to payroll providers following Cabinet determination of this issue. This will allow Inland Revenue to communicate the changes to payroll providers before the commencement of the 2025-26 tax year.
9. If Cabinet does not agree to freeze the student loan repayment threshold, then we will need to seek further Cabinet decisions to adjust the student loan repayment threshold by CPI. However, if this occurs, we will be unable to give payroll providers the required six weeks' lead time to update their payroll specifications.

Recommended action

We recommend that you:

- a) **Note** that the current Cabinet policy is to adjust the student loan repayment threshold by CPI each year, and that choosing to freeze this threshold at its current level indefinitely would represent the suspension of the existing Cabinet policy.

Noted

Noted

- b) **Note** that a Cabinet decision must be made on the student loan repayment threshold by 28 January 2025 in order to give payroll providers the required notice of changes for the 2025/26 tax year.

Noted

Noted

- c) **Agree** to indefinitely freeze the current policy of adjusting the student loan repayment threshold by CPI, keeping the threshold at the current income level of \$24,128 per annum.

Agreed/Not Agreed

Agreed/Not Agreed

- d) **Note** that the fiscal impact for an indefinite freeze of the student loan repayment threshold is yet to be determined.

Noted

Noted

- e) **Note** that the Cabinet paper proposes that financial implications for the freeze will be agreed through the Budget technical process.

Noted

Noted

- f) **Note** that the Cabinet paper proposes the authorisation of the Minister of Finance to determine allowance treatment as part of developing Budget 2025.

Noted

Noted

- g) **Agree** that the Minister of Revenue take the attached Cabinet paper to Cabinet.

Agreed/Not Agreed

Agreed/Not Agreed

- h) **Agree** to proactively release the Cabinet paper, associated minutes, and key papers in full, in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982, within 30 working days of Cabinet making final decisions.

Agreed/Not Agreed

Agreed/Not Agreed

- i) **Refer** this report to the Minister of Finance for their information.

Referred/Not referred

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)



Carolyn Elliott

Policy Lead

Inland Revenue

Mary Dooley

Acting Senior Policy Manager

Ministry of Education

Hon Simon Watts

Minister of Revenue

/ /2025

Hon Penny Simmonds

Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills

/ /2025



Inland Revenue
Te Tari Taake

Status Report

Weekly update for the Minister of Revenue

Week ending: Friday 31 January 2025
Date issued: Friday, 24 January 2025

New topical issues

New items since the last Status Report (issued on 12 December 2024).

Policy	
GST officials' issues paper project	<p>We recently reported to you on the GST officials' issues paper project (IR2024/208 refers). You asked whether targeted consultation could take place to determine whether there are any proposals in this paper that are a high priority and should be progressed on a faster timeline. Officials agree with targeted consultation to determine the priority of proposals to stakeholders. However, we don't recommend taking some proposals out of the issues paper workstream and doing targeted consultation on them instead. Given current resourcing and government priorities, this approach would not enable proposals to progress any faster.</p> <p>You also asked whether there were any proposals from the 2020 GST officials' issues paper that have not been implemented that need to be picked up. There are no proposals from the 2020 issues paper that require additional consultation. Stakeholders would like progress on changes to zero-rate GST on conferences and staff training supplied to non-resident businesses. However, this would have a material fiscal cost which is why it has not been implemented to date.</p> <p>You enquired about a legislative vehicle for the proposals that you decide to take forward. Public consultation on the proposals is likely to occur in the second half of the year, therefore, on these timeframes, the 2025/26 omnibus tax bill is not possible. Officials would recommend the next available tax bill.</p>
Operational	
Reassessing a small number of FamilyBoost claims	<p>In early February, we'll be reassessing approximately 30 FamilyBoost claims for customers who've advised us of a change to their income sources. Most of these reassessments will be for the July – September quarter.</p> <p>For customers in this situation, the information held on their, or their partner's, records at the time of their claim meant their FamilyBoost was calculated using non-reportable income from their latest income tax returns (e.g. self-employed income, rental income). However, they've since advised us they've earned only reportable income (e.g. salary or wages) for that quarter. FamilyBoost claims are generally full and final. If an assessment is incorrect and results in a significant underpayment or overpayment, we can complete a manual reassessment. We were advising customers in the above situation that their claims would not be reassessed.</p> <p>However, we've now reviewed our approach and determined we can reassess these claims. We'll be notifying customers of their reassessments in early February.</p> <p>Moving forward, if a customer contacts Inland Revenue after submitting a claim to advise their income sources are not up to date and it has affected their FamilyBoost calculation, we'll consider if their claim should be reassessed.</p>

FamilyBoost Update	<p>Since the last update, for the period 16 January 2025 to 22 January 2025, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• received 993 registrations• created 968 FamilyBoost accounts <p>Since registrations opened until 22 January 2025, inclusive, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• received 64,523 registrations• created 63,900 FamilyBoost accounts• 69 registrations still in progress and have declined 554 <p>Since claims opened until 22 January 2025, inclusive, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• received 101,535 claims relating to 57,756 households<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 59,614 relate to the quarter period ending 30 Sept 2024• 41,921 relate to the quarterly period ending 31 Dec 2024• paid \$26,431,565.72 towards 70,396 claims for 46,488 unique customers<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$16,237,187.81 relates to the quarterly period ending 30 Sept 2024 for 42,994 claims• \$10,194,377.91 relates to the quarterly period ending 31 Dec 2024 for 27,402 claims• 9,281 claims still in progress and have declined 17,141 <p>Note: Data provided is always point in time as cases stage throughout the day.</p>
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Bills

Bill title
Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024-25, Emergency Response, and Remedial Measures) Bill
Approximate date of enactment
End of March 2025
Current status
<p>The Bill was introduced into the House on 26 August 2024. It received its First Reading on 29 August 2024 and was referred to the Finance and Expenditure Committee (FEC).</p> <p>The closing date for submissions was 9 October 2024, and oral submissions have been heard. The Departmental Report on the submissions on the Bill was provided to the FEC on 17 January 2025. The FEC is scheduled to consider the Departmental Report on 29 January 2025.</p>

Bill title
Digital Services Tax Bill
Approximate date of enactment
To be confirmed
Current status
<p>The Digital Services Tax Bill was introduced into the House on 31 August 2023, has been reinstated, and is awaiting its First Reading. The Cabinet Legislation Economic Policy Committee has decided to retain the Bill on the legislative programme s 9(2)(g)(i)</p>

Upcoming Cabinet papers

Minister(s)	Paper	Meeting	Expected meeting date
MoR	Tax Administration (FamilyBoost Tax Credit-Extension of Dates to File Return of Income) Order 2025	LEG	20/02/2025

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Upcoming reports

Policy

IR Reference	Referral to and/or action sought from Ministers	Title	Description	Cabinet paper (include date & committee)	Due to Minister (Week ending)
IR2024/492	MoR: Note, Refer to MoF	Draft Cabinet paper - Tax Administration (FamilyBoost Tax Credit-Extension of Dates to File Return of Income) Order 2025	Draft LEG paper for second Order in Council to extend filing dates for FamilyBoost.	LEG 20/02/2025	31/01/2025
IR2025/010	MoR: Note, Refer to MoF	(Timetabled Release) Tax monitoring report: Collections to December 2024	(Timetabled Release) Tax outturn monitoring report covering results for November 2024 and December 2024 with variances reported against HYEPU2024		31/01/2025
s 9(2)(f)(iv)					
s 9(2)(f)(iv)					

IR Reference	Referral to and/or action sought from Ministers	Title	Description	Cabinet paper (include date & committee)	Due to Minister (Week ending)
s 9(2)(f)(iv)					
IR2025/001	MoR: Agree to recs	Measures for inclusion in an Amendment Paper to the Taxation (Annual Rates for 2024–25, Emergency Response, and Remedial Measures) Bill	This report seeks approval to include measures in an Amendment Paper proposed for release at the Committee of whole House stage of the Emergency Response Bill.		14/02/2025

ED&I, Enterprise Services, CCS-I, CCS-B, & TCO

IR Reference	Referral to and/or action sought from Ministers	Title	Description	Legal requirement (Yes or no, if yes when)	Due to Minister (Week ending)
BN2025/014	MoR: note	Inland Revenue's working from home data collection results	This briefing note provides IR's working from home prevalence data in the context of our organisational environment.	No	31/01/2025
IR2024/402	MoR: note, agree recs and sign and forward to MoF MoF: agree	Approval to increase Inland Revenue's foreign currency counterparty exposure limit	This report seeks joint approval to increase Inland Revenue's foreign currency counterparty exposure limit from the standard NZD 5 million s 9(2)(f)(iv)	Yes	01/11/2024 29/11/2024 07/02/2025 28/02/2025
IR2025/016	MoR: note	Quarterly report for Q2 2024/25	Report on IR's performance to Dec-24.	No	21/02/2024
IR2025/011	MoR: note, sign and return	Vote Revenue Ministerial Certification of Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 31 December 2024	This report seeks the MoR's sign-off on the attached <i>Certification of Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 31 December 2024</i> (Certification) for Vote Revenue.	Yes	21/02/2025 (awaiting Treasury timetable)

IR Reference	Referral to and/or action sought from Ministers	Title	Description	Legal requirement (Yes or no, if yes when)	Due to Minister (Week ending)
IR2025/012	MoR: review and comment or note, agree, sign and forward to MoF	2025 March Baseline Update submission for Vote Revenue	This report is a technical update of baselines for matters that do not raise significant policy issues and therefore do not require Cabinet approval but requires Joint Ministers' approval.	Yes	21/02/2025 (awaiting Treasury timetable)

Upcoming meetings/events

29 January	Minister of Revenue meeting
30 January	Joint Ministers' meeting
11 February	Minister of Revenue meeting
12 February	FEC Annual Review Hearing
18 February	Minister of Revenue meeting
19 February	CA ANZ Tax Advisory Group dinner
04 March	Minister of Revenue meeting
11 March	Minister of Revenue meeting
25 March	Minister of Revenue meeting

IR publicity

Date	Topic	Channels
18 Feb – 31 March 2025	<p>Working for Families Notice of Entitlement</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to remind Working for Families customers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they'll receive an NoE (notice of entitlement) or 'more information required' letter. - <u>what</u> they'll need to do (update their details in myIR or supply more income information) or not do (no need to update myIR or call us) - <u>how</u> to update their details in myIR. - <u>what</u> will happen to their Working for Families payments if they're required to provide more information and choose not to. 	Digital advertising, social media advertising, emails and letters (direct marketing), SMS.
March – April 2025	<p>Personal Income Tax campaign – employers</p> <p>From 1 April 2025 changes will come into effect for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employer Savings Contribution Tax (ESCT) - Retirement Savings Contribution Tax (RSCT) - Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) rates - Portfolio Investment Rate (PIR) <p>These changes align with the personal income tax threshold changes from July 2024. This campaign will serve as a reminder to employers about those changes, and what they need to do (if anything).</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising, emails and letters (direct marketing).
March – June 2025	<p>Brightline</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to remind customers of the changes to Brightline property rules that were made in 2024. Activity will run for four months and remind customers that for properties sold on or after 1 July 2024, the bright-line property rule applies if the property is sold within 2 years of purchasing it.</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising.
March – June 2025	<p>Interest deductibility</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to remind customers of the current interest limitation rules for the 2024/25 filing year and bring awareness to the changes coming from 1 April 2025.</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising.

Date	Topic	Channels
Feb – July 2025	<p>End of tax year</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educate: tax bills. Targeting customers with multiple income streams, including paid parental leave (PPL) and lump sum payments. - Engage: customers with tips to help with the end of tax year – logging into myIR and updating bank account and contact details. - Inform: Working for Families customers – when they can expect their IITA/WfFTC assessment square up and why there could be a delay between receiving each one. We want to inform customers and reduce 'low value' contacts. 	Digital advertising, social media ads (paid/native), Paid Search, Front of house promotional slides, phone messaging, website home page tile, website campaign landing page and direct marketing – emails/letters.
May – June 2025	<p>7 July income tax returns</p> <p>The 7 July marketing campaign runs each year with the purpose of encouraging customers to file on time (by 7 July) and online via myIR. With various changes introduced over the past few years, including new trust disclosure requirements and property interest limitation rules, our messaging this year will also continue to remind customers about their new filing requirements and how to file correctly.</p>	Digital advertising, social media ads (paid/native), Paid Search, Front of house promotional slides, phone messaging, website home page tile, website campaign landing page and direct marketing – emails/letters.
April – May 2025	<p>Child support debt</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to increase customer contacts/engagement and help towards child support debt reduction.</p>	Direct marketing: emails, letters, SMS, outbound calls. Followed by legal action process.
April – June 2025	<p>Fringe Benefit Tax – common mistakes</p> <p>There are a number of common mistakes people make when it comes to Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) and some widely held misconceptions. The main purpose of this campaign is to improve FBT compliance by highlighting things that people sometimes get wrong, so we can in turn support our customers to make sure they get it right.</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising.

Date	Topic	Channels
April – June 2025	<p>2025 Toolbox – Construction – Round 3</p> <p>The purpose of this campaign is to encourage tradies to address their overdue returns and outstanding debt and remind them about their general tax obligations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record keeping - Expenses - Income tax - GST - Employer obligations <p>The campaign also encourages customers to register for seminars or business advisory visits if they need more support.</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising, out-of-home advertising, radio advertising, emails and letters (direct marketing), SMS.
Ongoing	<p>Scam awareness</p> <p>Updating customers on scams and taking care when online.</p>	Social media only.
July 2024 – June 2025	<p>Monthly campaign to GST customers</p> <p>Monthly reminders for GST customers to file and pay their GST on time. Encourages them to self-serve online.</p>	Social media reminders.
June 2024 – June 2025	<p>FamilyBoost campaign</p> <p>Campaign to educate families (parents and caregivers) about what FamilyBoost is, who might be eligible, how to register and claim.</p>	Digital advertising, social media advertising, out-of-home advertising, radio advertising, emails and letters (direct marketing).
July 2024 – June 2025	<p>Student loan campaign</p> <p>Targeted to overseas based customers or those thinking of moving overseas. The purpose is to raise customers awareness of their repayment obligations and encourage them to log into myIR and make the required payment.</p>	Targeted emails, letters, social media, and digital advertising.
October 2024 – June 2025	<p>Hidden Economy – Get It Right (GIR) campaign</p> <p>The purpose of the GIR campaign is to remind business owners within the GIR work programme of their tax and employee obligations; with a particular focus on book-keeping, filing and paying and employer obligations. Target audience: liquor and vape outlets, high risk retail/personal services e.g. beauty salons, hairdressers, barbers, personal health and fitness trainers.</p>	Out of home – posters and retail network screens, digital advertising, social media, Google Search, proactive media releases.

Date	Topic	Channels
Nov 2024 - Feb 2025	7 Feb due date The purpose of this campaign is to support operational communications in reminding customers to pay any outstanding bills due on 7 February or 7 April 2025. This includes customers who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- owe income tax,- didn't meet their student loan repayment obligations from the 2023/2024 tax year,- have been overpaid Working for Families tax credits,- or a combination of the above.	Google Search, social media advertisement (META/LinkedIn), website landing page, carousel banners, letters, SMS, FOH, voice messaging.

Official Information Act requests

MoR OIAs – for Minister to respond.

Ref no.	Date due to MoR office	Statutory deadline	Requester	Subject
MOIA 191-24 [25OIA1710]	Received	Extended to: 30/01/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Copies of two joint reports addressed to the MoR and MoF, two briefing notes addressed to the offices of the MoR and MoF, two reports addressed to the MoR and three weekly Status Reports.
MOIA 196-24 [25OIA1745]	Received	04/02/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Cabinet paper proactive release statistics for the period 27 November 2023 to 27 November 2024.
MOIA 200-24 [25OIA1759]	28/01/2025	10/02/2025	s 9(2)(a)	A list of all briefings, reports, aide memoirs and memos produced or received by the MoR between October 1, 2024 and November 30, 2024.
MOIA 001-25 [25OIA1780]	Received	13/02/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Copies of two joint reports addressed to the MoR and MoF and the agenda for Joint Ministers (MoF and MoR) on 15 August 2024.

FOR MINISTERS' OFFICE USE

CIR OIAs – for Minister's office to note or consultation.

Ref no.	Date due to MoR office	Statutory deadline	Requester	Subject
25OIA1709	Received	Extended to: 30/01/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Copies of two joint reports addressed to the MoR and MoF, two briefing notes addressed to the offices of the MoR and MoF, two reports addressed to the MoR and three weekly Status Reports.
25OIA1727	27/01/2025	28/01/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Student loan debt data for individuals in the far north and Northland regions.
25OIA1747	Received	05/02/2025	Parliamentary researcher	Additional analysis undertaken by Inland Revenue on Trusts since the published Trust Disclosures in November 2023, a breakdown of trusts by asset and net asset size, source of income for these trusts and how many are trading trusts.
25OIA1751	02/02/2025	07/01/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Details of each privacy breach recorded in last 5 financial years; including reason and how breaches were communicated to those affected.
25OIA1752	09/02/2025	10/02/2025		Number of individual contractors hired by IR that were previously employed at IR, including length of time, position held, contract start/end dates, contract price, and the policy for hiring previous employees as contractors.

FOR MINISTERS' OFFICE USE

Ref no.	Date due to MoR office	Statutory deadline	Requester	Subject
25OIA1794	02/02/2025	13/02/2025	s 18(c)(i) - 18(1) TAA [REDACTED]	Copy or summary of recommendations made to the MoR in relation to the proposed tax changes for charities.
25OIA1756	10/02/2025	10/02/2025	Member of the public	Information on the assumptions, methods and algorithms used to calculate child support payments using the NZ household economic survey data.
25OIA1760	10/02/2025	10/02/2025	Masterton District Council	Number of families claiming and entitled to Working for Families tax credits in the Masterton District for the tax years 2020 to 2023 (2024 if available).
25OIA1754	Received	10/02/2025	s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	Copies of two briefing notes addressed to the offices of the MoR and MoF.
25OIA1776	Received	13/02/2025	[REDACTED]	Copy of one briefing note addressed to the offices of the MoR and MoF.
25OIA1768	12/02/2025	13/02/2025	[REDACTED]	Advice Inland Revenue received that led to the decision to stop the use of custom audience lists with social media platforms.
25OIA1773	12/02/2025	13/02/2025	s 18(c)(i) - 18(1) TAA [REDACTED]	Has Inland Revenue published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year and if so, confirm it meets the meet the Government Department Strategies Index definition.

FOR MINISTERS' OFFICE USE

Ref no.	Date due to MoR office	Statutory deadline	Requester	Subject
25OIA1822	13/02/2025	14/02/2025	s 9(2)(a)	Details of how Baycorp Australia and CCI Credit Management are remunerated, how much earned in 2024, how Inland Revenue measures effectiveness of these agencies, and details/metrics of effectiveness of marketing campaigns mentioned in the annual report.



Briefing note

Reference: BN2025/020

Date: 27 January 2025

To: Revenue Advisor, Minister of Finance – Emma Grigg
Revenue Advisor, Minister of Revenue – Angela Graham
Private Secretary, Minister of Revenue – Helen Kuy

cc: Peter Mersi, Commissioner
David Carrigan, Deputy Commissioner
Graeme Morrison, Policy Director
Kerryn McIntosh-Watt, Policy Director
Phil Whittington, Policy Director
Joanne Petrie, Executive Support Advisor to the Commissioner
Jill Compton, PA to Deputy Commissioner
Governance, Ministerial & Executive Services

From: Talia Harvey

Subject: **DTC regime regulatory stewardship review findings**

Purpose

1. Inland Revenue intends to publish a donation tax credit (DTC) regime regulatory stewardship report later this month. This briefing note provides an overview of the report. The report and an Inland Revenue response to the report is attached for your information. Both documents will be published together on relevant pages on our website.
2. The primary intended audience of the report is the Inland Revenue senior leadership. The purpose of the briefing note is to provide Ministers with this information prior to it being proactively released to the public, to ensure a no surprises approach.
3. The Ministers of Finance, Revenue and the Minister for the Community and Voluntary sector are scheduled to meet on 30 January 2025. The report and Inland Revenue response might be useful background for any donations tax credit issues that arise in the meeting.

Background

4. Inland Revenue's framework for regulatory stewardship is built on the overarching Public Sector framework. Regulatory stewardship for Inland Revenue means the Chief Executive needs ongoing assurance that the design and delivery of each tax and payment system 'product', and the tax and payment system design and operation as a whole, are effective and operating as intended.

5. The DTC regime regulatory stewardship review looked at two important aspects in particular:
 - Public awareness, ease of use and take-up of the regime and its effect on charitable giving
 - Compliance by donors and donee organisations.
6. The team also considered whether the DTC regime is fit to meet future challenges.

Findings

7. The review identified no significant concerns, but did identify opportunities for improvement across four key themes: Structural, Administrative, Cultural, and Compliance. Improvements range from minor changes to significant system changes.
8. From a customer perspective, the most notable finding was the low awareness, with only 57% of those surveyed being aware the regime exists. As well as the low uptake, only one in five people that make donations claim the DTC for all their donations.
9. From a tax administration perspective, there is a high compliance costs as significant effort is made to administer the regime including manually processing claims and ensuring claims are valid.
10. The Inland Revenue response acknowledges that some of the recommendations cannot be prioritised at this time however it does commit to taking some immediate action and considering some medium-term plans.

Next Steps

11. We intend to publish the report later this month. It is possible that, given the subject matter and due to various recommendations in the review findings, there will be sector interest and expectations.
12. To ensure we manage sector interest and expectations, we are proactively releasing and publishing the report as well as an Inland Revenue response setting out what recommendations we are likely to prioritise.

Consultation with Treasury

13. Treasury was not informed about this briefing note as it is provided for information only.

s 9(2)(a)



Talia Harvey
Senior Policy Advisor Inland Revenue
s 9(2)(a)



Inland Revenue
Te Tari Taake

POLICY

Tax policy report: Tax monitoring report: Collections to December 2024

Date:	28 January 2025	Priority:	Low
Security level:	In Confidence (Information is released to a timetable)	Report number:	IR2025/010

Action sought

	Action sought	Deadline
Minister of Revenue	Note the contents of this report Refer report to Minister of Finance	None 04 February 2025

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone
Sandra Watson	Policy Lead, Forecasting and Analysis	s 9(2)(a)

28 January 2025

Minister of Revenue

Tax Monitoring Report: Collections to December 2024

Purpose and context

1. The purpose of this report is to inform you of how tax collections¹ for the six months to December 2024 are tracking against the Treasury's forecasts from the 2024 Half Year Economic and Fiscal update (HYEFU). No action is required from Ministers.
2. Monthly tax outturns have a timetabled release by the Treasury and December figures should not be disclosed until after publication on 13 February 2025.
3. The 2024 Half Year Economic and Fiscal Update (HYEFU) was released on 17 December 2024, and this is the first report of variances against these forecasts. As outturns to October 2024 were known at the time HYEFU forecasts were prepared, variances presented in this report are for the months of November and December 2024.

Tax receipts for the year to December 2024 (2024/25 fiscal year)

Receipts Variance

4. For the six months ending 31 December 2024, unconsolidated aggregate tax receipts totalled \$58,934m, \$35m (0.1%) above the Treasury's HYEFU forecast.
5. There were some offsetting variances in different tax types. The key tax types above forecast were:
 - **Total net GST:** \$246m (1.3%) greater than forecast,
 - **net company tax:** \$85m (1.0%) greater than forecast,
 - **net other persons tax:** \$56m (2.3%) greater than forecast
6. GST was \$246m greater than forecast. Although measuring an earlier period, annual growth in nominal consumption for the September 2024 quarter has been measured at 2.7%, slightly higher than the HYEFU forecast of 2.6%². Consumption data for the December 2024 quarter will be released on 20 March 2025. Annual inflation for the December 2024 quarter has also been measured at 2.2%³, compared to a HYEFU forecast of 2.0%.
7. The positive variances in paragraph 5 were partially offset by **PAYE**, which was \$373m (1.5%) below forecast. This variance has increased from \$102m below forecast in November. The revenue measure is much closer to forecast, so this cash variance may just be related to timing in the forecast monthly phasing.

¹ Limited to Inland Revenue administered tax types plus Customs GST, referred to in this document as Aggregate taxation. Two measures are reported. Tax receipts reflect actual collections (cash). Tax revenue reflects amounts estimated to be earned but not necessarily received yet.

² Source: Gross Domestic Product: September 2024 quarter, released by Statistics New Zealand on 19 December 2025.

³ Source: Consumers Price Index: December 2024 quarter, released by Statistics New Zealand on 22 January 2025.

Receipts Growth

8. Over the twelve months to December 2024, unconsolidated aggregate tax receipts grew by \$6,334m (5.3%) compared to the previous year. The main contributors to this growth were:
 - **PAYE**: increased by \$2.3b (4.8%),
 - **GST**: increased by \$1.4b (3.5%),
 - **residents withholding tax on dividends (DWT)**: increased by \$1.1b (92.7%) due to increased dividends paid ahead of the 39% trustee tax rate taking effect, and
 - **interest RWT**: increased by \$0.9b (31.9%).
9. **Net company tax** receipts grew by \$670m over the same period, and **net other persons** receipts declined by \$490m.

Tax revenue for the year to December 2024 (2024/25 fiscal year)

10. Unconsolidated aggregate tax revenue for the six months to 31 December 2024 totalled \$63,205m, which is \$779m (1.2%) below forecast.
11. These main tax types below forecast are **Net company tax** at \$1,041m (11.8%) below forecast, and **PAYE** which was \$47m (0.2%) below forecast.
12. These variances are partially offset by positive variances in the other main tax types. **Total net GST** was \$219m (1.1%) greater than forecast while **Net other persons tax** was \$88m (2.3%) greater than forecast. These are both consistent with the receipts measure. **DWT** was also similar to the receipts measure, at \$23m (5.6%) greater than forecast.
13. Of the \$1,041m negative variance in net company tax, \$950m will be removed on consolidation⁴, resulting in a consolidated company tax variance closer to HYEPU forecast at \$91m below which is within normal monthly fluctuations.

Consultation and next steps

14. The Treasury has been consulted on this report.
15. The Government's interim financial statements for the six months ended 31 December 2024 will be published by the Treasury on 13 February 2025.

⁴ The consolidation process carried out by the Treasury removes the impact of Government paying tax to itself, mainly GST and income tax from Government-owned entities.

Recommended action

We recommend that you:

16. **note** the contents of this report, and
Noted
17. **refer** a copy of this report to the Minister of Finance for their information.
Referred/Not referred

s 9(2)(a)



Sandra Watson

Policy Lead, Forecasting and Analysis

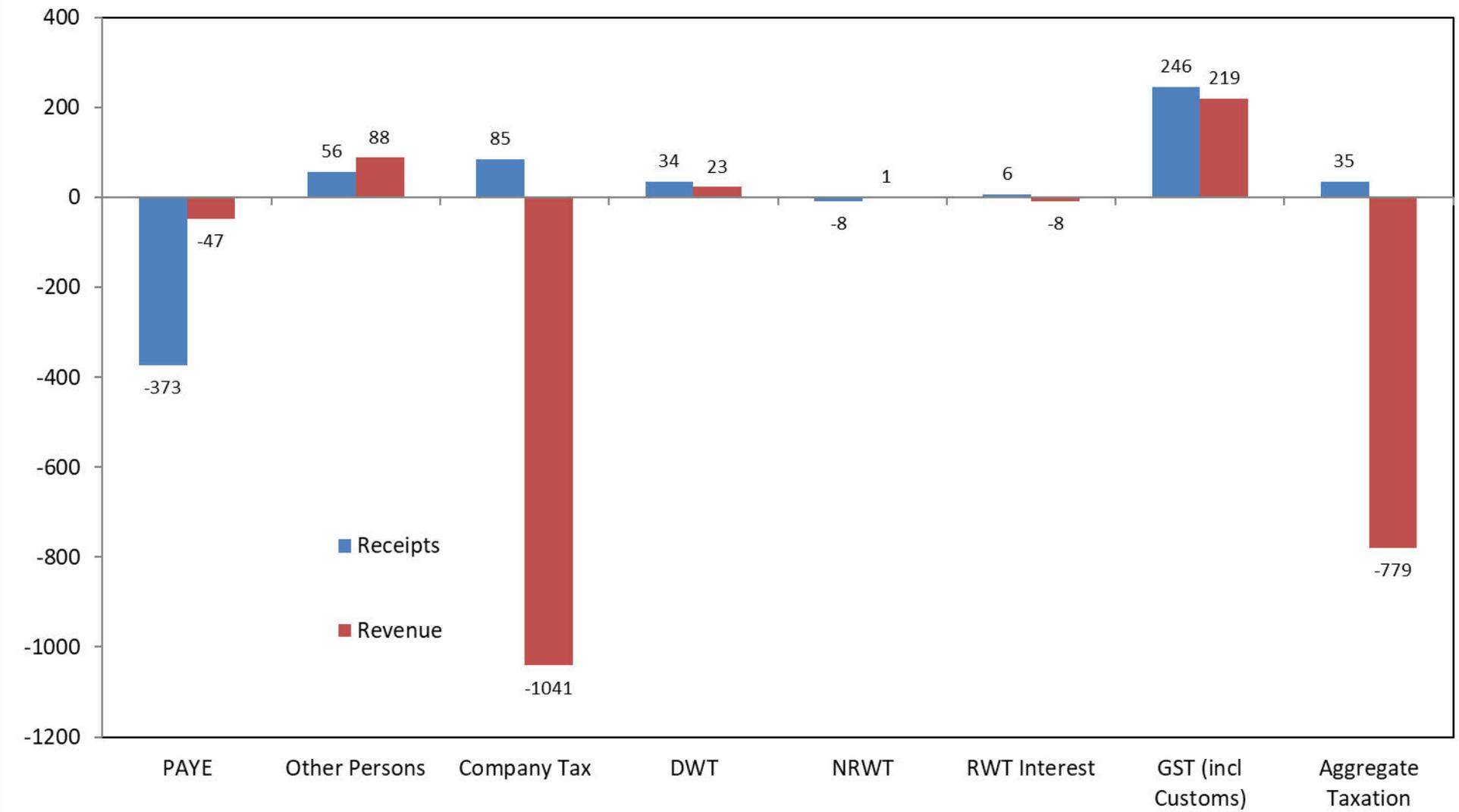
Hon Simon Watts

Minister of Revenue

/ /2025

Cumulative Variance (2024/25 June year) on the Treasury's HYEFU 2024 forecasts - December 2024

\$ millions



Briefing note

Reference: BN2025/031
Date: 30 January 2025
To: Revenue Advisor, Minister of Revenue – Angela Graham
Acting Private Secretary, Minister of Revenue – Mili Herrera
Emma Grigg
From: Ella Patterson
Subject: 2025-26 Student loan repayment threshold

Student loan repayment threshold and payroll specifications

1. On 28 January, Cabinet agreed to indefinitely freeze the current policy of adjusting the student loan repayment threshold by CPI, keeping the threshold at the current income level of \$24,128 per annum.
2. Attached to this briefing note are key messages intended to assist the Minister of Revenue if any questions arise. We have also provided these messages to the Ministry of Education to share with the Minister for Universities and the Minister for Vocational Education.

Release of 2025-26 payroll specifications

3. Inland Revenue issues payroll specifications to payroll software providers. These allow payroll providers to ensure that their software reflects employers' tax and withholding obligations for the upcoming tax year (i.e. 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026)
4. The payroll specifications will be released on **3 February 2025** (i.e. this coming Monday).
5. Once the payroll specifications are released, Inland Revenue will publish information about the freezing of the student loan repayment threshold on the student loan section of Inland Revenue's website.
6. Inland Revenue will publish an article about this matter in the Tax Information Bulletin.

Ella Patterson
Policy Advisor
s 9(2)(a)

Freezing the student loan repayment threshold at \$24,128

Key messages

- The student loan repayment threshold sets the amount of annual income at which a New Zealand-based borrower is required to begin making loan repayments and tends to be adjusted for inflation annually.
- The repayment threshold was set at \$24,128 in 1 April 2024. Cabinet has agreed to freeze the repayment threshold indefinitely, so it will remain at that level for subsequent tax years, without inflation adjustments.
- This decision takes into account the current economic climate, the cost of the student loan scheme and the need to maintain careful Government spending.
- The approximate impact of a one-off freeze of the repayment income threshold for 2025/26 would be an operating savings of \$7.674 million over 5 years (from 2024/2025 to 2028/29) and an additional one-off increase in the value of the student loan asset of \$13.017 million in 2024/25. A continued freeze would multiply these savings.
- The inflationary effect on income means that the bulk of the savings will be generated by borrowers already over the repayment threshold.
- Our student support system aims to maintain high participation levels while balancing tertiary education costs for taxpayers and for borrowers.
- New Zealand is in the top five of reporting OECD nations for the share of students receiving public financial support, with nearly three-quarters of New Zealand tertiary domestic students receiving some form of publicly supported student loan or grant.
- The Government's contribution towards the cost of study is significant, at 82% in 2023. New Zealand also provides student allowances for those most in need and in their initial years of study.
- All New Zealand-based borrowers with a current repayment obligation (approximately 370,000 people) are effectively being asked to pay off their loans slightly more quickly.
- New Zealand based borrowers who are facing hardship meeting their repayment obligations can apply for a reduced deduction rate from their salary and wages.

Q&As

Q. What is happening to the student loan repayment threshold?

A: The repayment threshold is remaining at the current level and will not be adjusted by inflation. The decision to suspend inflation adjustments to the repayment threshold takes into account the current economic climate, the cost of the Student Loan Scheme asset to the Crown and the need to maintain careful spending.

Suspending inflation adjustment of the repayment threshold will increase the amount collected in repayments by increasing over time the amount that people repay as their income increases.

Q. When does it come into effect?

A: The repayment threshold was set at \$24,128 from 1 April 2024 and will remain at that level.

Q. How much more will people pay as a result of this policy?

A: On average people will pay an estimated extra \$1.20 per week in 2025.

Q. Who does this affect?

A: All New Zealand-based borrowers with a repayment obligation are effectively being asked to pay slightly more due to the freeze of the inflation adjustment of the repayment threshold.

Q. How much will this policy save the Government?

A: Maintaining the threshold at the same level for 2025/26 will have an estimated five-year operating saving of \$7.674 million and an additional one-off increase in the value of the student loan asset of \$13.017 million in 2024/25. A continued freeze would multiply these savings.

Q. How long will the freeze of the repayment threshold last?

A: Cabinet has decided to freeze the threshold indefinitely. This decision may be revisited when the fiscal situation improves.

Q. Will the freeze impact overseas based borrowers?

A: The freezing of the threshold adjustment will not impact overseas based borrowers as their student loan repayment obligations are based on the size of their student loan balance and are not income contingent.