

26 June 2026



Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 28 May 2026. You requested the following:

I request the following information held by your agency / entity relating to the Budget 2026 public sector savings exercise:

- 1. The agency's Budget 2026 savings options paper(s) or initiative bids submitted to the Treasury or the Minister between 1 September 2025 and 19 May 2026.*
- 2. Any document showing any FTE reduction expected at the agency as a result of Budget 2026, broken down by business group, function, or location to the extent that breakdown exists.*
- 3. Any document held by the agency that defines or identifies which of its roles are considered 'frontline' and which are not, for the purpose of the Budget 2026 exercise.*
- 4. Any business case, modelling, or analysis dated between 1 September 2025 and present concerning the use of AI, automation, or digital tools to replace, reduce, or substitute roles within the agency.*
- 5. Any change proposal, indicative structure document, or consultation document issued to staff or unions on or before the date of this request relating to the Budget 2026 savings exercise.*
- 6. Correspondence between the Chief Executive (or equivalent) and the Minister, the Treasury, or the Public Service Commissioner between 1 January 2026 and present concerning the savings exercise or workforce reductions.*

The Commissioner of Inland Revenue has received correspondence from Ministers, the Treasury, and the Public Service Commissioner between 1 January 2026 and 28 May 2026 concerning the savings exercise or workforce reductions. Normally these would be transferred to the authoring agency under section 14 of the OIA. However, as you have already requested this information from those agencies, a transfer is not necessary.

Information refused

The following documents are in scope of your request and are all refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as they will soon be publicly available as part of the Budget 2026 proactive release.

Date	Document description
10/12/2025	IR2025/458 Budget 2026 initiative submission for the Revenue portfolio
20/04/2026	IR2026/112 Budget 2026 initiatives for the Revenue portfolio

Some information may be removed from the documents listed above, on the OIA grounds described in the documents.

Inland Revenue does not hold information in scope of your request for:

- any document held by the agency that defines or identifies which of its roles are considered 'frontline' and which are not, for the purpose of the Budget 2026 exercise,
- any business case, modelling, or analysis dated between 1 September 2025 and present concerning the use of AI, automation, or digital tools to replace, reduce, or substitute roles within the agency, and
- any change proposal, indicative structure document, or consultation document issued to staff or unions on or before the date of this request relating to the Budget 2026 savings exercise.

Your request is therefore refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Right of review

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

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



Fergus Welsh

Enterprise Leader, Finance