



Office of Hon Bill English

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Finance
MP for Clutha-Southland

16 June 2014

Marty O'Connor
fyi-request-1701-075a1ace@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Marty O'Connor

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 20 May 2014. You requested the following:

"... a copy of the background paper(s) regarding the establishment of additional centres of research excellence as detailed on page 175 of "The Estimates of Appropriations 2014/15 - Education and Science Sector".

The following information is covered by your request and will be publicly available on the Treasury website:

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	10 December 2013	Briefing on SOC Paper on Additional Investment in Vote Tertiary Education in Budget 2014	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
2.	20 February 2014	Vote Tertiary Education Four Year Plan	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
3.	10 March 2014	Treasury Report: Budget 2014: Investing in Tertiary Education and Research to Drive Growth	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
4.	13 March 2014	Further advice on the Vote Tertiary Education Budget 2014 package	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
5.	21 March 2014	SOC Paper: Budget 2014: Investing in Tertiary Education to Drive Growth	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
6.	24 March 2014	CAB Minute: Budget 2014: Investing in Tertiary Education to Drive Growth	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
7.	7 April 2014	Budget 2014 Vote Tertiary Education: Budget Ministers Response letter	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/
8.	14 April 2014	Budget 2014 Package: Vote Tertiary Education	http://www.treasury.govt.nz/

The information listed in the table below is covered by the request and is expected to be made available on the Ministry of Education website:

9.	21 March 2014	Advice on Running a Further Centres of Research Excellence Selection Round in 2014 (Budget Sensitive)	http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Budget/Budget2014.aspx
10.	28 March 2014	Establishing a Centre of Research Excellence in Māori Research	http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Budget/Budget2014.aspx
11.	8 May 2014	Decisions to Inform Selection of Three Additional CoREs and a CoRE Focused on Māori Research (Revised)	http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Budget/Budget2014.aspx

Some relevant information will be removed from documents listed in the above table and withheld under the Official Information Act, on the grounds described in the documents.

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

Information to be Withheld

There is an additional document covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under the following section of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- advice still under consideration, section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

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

Yours sincerely



Hon Bill English
Minister of Finance