

Alex Harris
fyi.org.nz

Dear Alex

Thanks you for your email of 3 May 2012 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for the following information with regard to the student loan repayment rate change:

- *any estimate of the amount of money expected to be saved by this measure over the next five years*
- *the primary advice document (cabinet paper, briefing to the minister etc) relating to this decision.*

I have identified one document that falls within the scope of your request, entitled *Student Support Package for Budget 2012*.

I am withholding this document in its entirety, except its title, under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act ('to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials'), as it reflects advice on matters still under active consideration by Ministers.

Information on the 2012 student support Budget package will be available on the Ministry of Education's website after the announcement of Budget decisions on 24 May 2012 (www.minedu.govt.nz). In addition, the Ministry of Education will inform you when the documents relating to the Budget 2012 student support package are publically released.

I consider that there are no overriding public interest reasons that support the release of the information withheld or refused.

Under sections 19 and 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review the decision to withhold or refuse part of your request.

Yours sincerely



Ben O'Meara
Acting Group Manager
Ministry of Education