

1 4 JUN 2012

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Alex Harris
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Dear Alex Harris

Your Request for Official Information (Ministry reference H201201654)

Thank you for your requests of 15 May 2012 to the Minister of Health and of 16 May 2012 to the Ministry of Health, asking for official information prepared for the Government about the increase in pharmaceutical co-payments.

The Government will be proactively releasing documents relating to Budget 2012 on the Treasury's website (www.treasury.govt.nz) on 1 July 2012. Advice provided to the Government on the increase to pharmaceutical co-payments will be included in this release. Please refer to that information; this is allowed under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982.

You may also wish to refer to the Beehive website (www.beehive.govt.nz) for a copy of the Minister of Health's press release of 14 May 2012, *Budget 2012: Prescription charges help fund Health*.

I trust this is helpful. I note that you have the right to ask the office of the Ombudsman to review my response to your request.

Yours sincerely

Barbara Phillips

Deputy Director-General

Corporate Services