



19 July 2019



Reference: OIA-2018/19-0673

Dear 

Official Information Act request relating to the unauthorised access of Budget 2019 materials

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 5 June 2019. You requested:

"...a copy of the following information regarding the alleged unauthorised access of budget information. The time frame I am requesting is from Monday 27 May 2019.

1. *All communications between DPMC, the Treasury, SSC, NCSC, GCSB and the Police. This should include all texts, phone calls, emails, reports, briefings or aide memoire.*
2. *All communications between DPMC and staff from the Office of the Prime Minister. This should include all texts, phone calls, emails, reports, briefings or aide memoire*
3. *All communications between DPMC and the Prime Minister. This should include all texts, phone calls, emails, reports, briefings or aide memoire.*
4. *A summary of all oral briefings provided to by DPMC to staff within the Office of the Prime Minister.*
5. *All information and advice you received in your capacity as Chief Executive of DPMC. This should include all advice provided to you internally by your staff as well as advice provided to you or your staff by all other parties eg NCSC, GCSB, the Treasury, SSC, the Police, Ministers and/or their offices.*
6. *All information and advice provided by DPMC to any other party. This should include all advice provided to eg NCSC, GCSB, Treasury, SSC, the Police, the Prime Minister and Ministers and/or their offices*
7. *All communications with journalists regarding the matter."*

Set out below are all communications, information and advice identified as relevant to your request. Please note that the communications exchanged by officials reflect their early and limited understanding, which evolved overtime as the situation unfolded.

Please find the following information enclosed:

- Texts messages that have been identified as relevant to questions 1-3 and 5 of your request. Some of this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of individuals, and section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.
- A transcript of a voice message that Mr Barrington received from the Director-General of the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB), Andrew Hampton, on 29 May 2019 at 3.06pm. Please note, this message was not accessed until well after

the meeting, which Mr Barrington attended on the same day at 4:30pm, where the information contained in the voicemail was briefed to the participants, as detailed in the SSC report (page 21).

- Emails that have been identified as relevant to questions 1-3 and 5 of your request. Some names and contact details are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
- Emails where Brook Barrington, the Chief Executive of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), accepted invitations to meetings regarding the unauthorised access of Budget 2019 materials.

The substance of these meetings is detailed in the State Services Commission's (SSC) report, 'Investigation into actions and statements of Mr Makhoulf', which was published on 25 June 2019. The State Services Commissioner, Peter Hughes and Mr Barrington also made further statements relevant to these meetings during their respective appearances at the Governance and Administration Committee for the 2019/20 Estimates for Vote State Services on 19 June 2019, and for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet on 12 June 2019

Please find publically available links to the hearings and the report in the table below:

Item	Title	Website Address
1	2019/20 Estimates for Vote State Services (19 June 2019)	https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/52SCGA_EVI_88156_GA3195/ac5e3922722495d5d5a1b554b440b14456c92819
2	2019/20 Estimates for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet (12 June 2019)	https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/52SCGA_EVI_88155_GA3158/be66387779877036033b9cf71ffa2b07b0d52c66
3	Investigation into actions and statements of Mr Makhoulf (published 25 June 2019)	http://www.ssc.govt.nz/sites/all/files/Investigation%20into%20Actions%20and%20Statements%20of%20Mr%20Makhoulf.pdf

Mr Barrington also engaged in phone conversations relating to the unauthorised access of Budget 2019 materials. Mr Barrington detailed these conversations in his appearance at the Governance and Administration Committee for the 2019/20 Estimates for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet on 12 June 2019, and in the evidence provided to the SSC for their report. Publically available links to the hearings and the report are provided above.

Please note that on the evening of 28 May 2019 the Acting Deputy Chief Executive of the National Security Group, Cecile Hillyer engaged in two phone conversations with Mr Barrington. These conversations were about making contact with Mr Hampton. Ms Hillyer also made two phone calls to GCSB contacts to confirm the contact details for Mr Hampton and another GCSB official. Following these conversations and a brief conversation with another GCSB official, she received a text message from a GCSB official and a voicemail from Mr Hampton confirming that a call was being made to Mr Barrington. These communications occurred between 8:13pm and 9pm.

Some of the information identified as within scope of your request are draft media releases and draft media lines and communications between officials in agencies, including DPMC, relating to their preparation. These were sent to Mr Barrington for his information and use if required, and to the Prime Minister and Minister Robertson for their use if required. This information is withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.

In addition, Mr Barrington (alongside all other Public Service Chief Executives) received from the SSC and Treasury copies of media statements related to the unauthorised access of

Budget 2019 materials. These are refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as these media statements are publicly available. Links to the relevant publicly available media releases, ordered by date published, are listed in the table below:

Item	Title	Website Address
1	Inquiry into unauthorised access to Budget Material (Published 30 May 2019)	http://www.ssc.govt.nz/inquiry-unauthorised-access-budget-material
2	Unauthorised access to Budget information (Published 30 May 2019)	https://treasury.govt.nz/news-and-events/news/unauthorised-access-budget-information
3	Investigation into statements made and actions taken by the Secretary to the Treasury (Published 04 June 2019)	http://www.ssc.govt.nz/investigation-statements-made-and-actions-taken-secretary-treasury

We have also identified emails containing media coverage related to the unauthorised access of Budget 2019 materials. These were from DPMC's Director of Communications & Engagement to Mr Barrington as part of routine media monitoring relevant to DPMC. We have interpreted this information as being outside the scope of your request. However, please advise if you wish for this information to be considered for release.

With regard to communications that DPMC had with journalists relating to the unauthorised access of Budget 2019 materials, I can confirm that no relevant communications have been identified. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e), as the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern noted communications between DPMC and her Office in oral questions in Parliament on 11 June 2019. A transcript of the Prime Minister's remarks can be found on the Parliament website (https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/combined/HansDeb_20190611_20190611_04). Reference to communications with DPMC was in response to question 2 from Hon Simon Bridges in part.

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Finally, this response may be published on DPMC's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Clare Ward

Executive Director, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Group

Text messages

Barrington/DPMC staff

Tuesday 28 May

7.23pm

From Michael Webster to Anneliese Parkin and Brook Barrington

Brook and Anneliese, just in case you have not seen this, reporter Henry Cooke at 4.40pm on the Stuff live feed reported Hon Bridges as claiming that the Government's 2019 Legislation Programme was also leaked to National. Michael

7.25pm

From Brook Barrington to Michael Webster and Anneliese Parkin

Yes. I have seen that too. I am pondering. BB

7.33pm

From Anneliese Parkin to Brook Barrington and Michael Webster

Hmmm

8.31pm

From Michael Webster to Brook Barrington and Anneliese Parkin

There's an item on Stuff that Treasury's IT systems were hacked and they have referred the matter to the Police. Message from Martin Bell.

8.32pm

From Brook Barrington to Anneliese Parkin and Michael Webster

Thanks. Yes. We will need to check our own systems tomorrow, given CASS link.

8.59pm

From Cecile Hillyer to Brook Barrington

Lisa tells me that Andrew H has made contact with you Brook. I have a download from Hamish B, Lisa's deputy, which I presume Andrew is now giving you. Sounds like someone in Treasury uploaded the budget doc to the Tsy website without links but someone surfing the web found it.

9.00pm

From Brook Barrington to Cecile Hillyer

Thanks. Yes. I have spoken to him.

Text messages

Barrington/Hampton

Tuesday 28 May

9.31pm

From Andrew Hampton to Brook Barrington, forwarded from Lisa Fong to Andrew Hampton

Andrew,

Ahead of discussion with minister, looks like doc uploaded in prep for budget then someone guessed the URL. The IP that accessed the doc is said to resolve to parliament and 2 degrees.

s9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Text messages

Barrington/Various

Wednesday 29 May

6.15pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes, Paul James, Gabriel Makhoul and John Ombler

Colleagues - I cannot rule out needing to act sooner rather than later. I suggest that the Treasury and SSC accelerate work on media releases as we discussed, in case needed. BB

6.47pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes, Paul James, Gabriel Makhoul and John Ombler

Update: Tsy is preparing presser tonight, for early morning release. Gabs will circulate to Hughes, Hampton and Barrington ASAP for comment and quick turnaround. BB

6.50pm

From Paul James

Thanks, we've sent some text to SSC for possible inclusion. Have just forwarded to you as well. Happy to keep a low profile on this one.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Text messages

Barrington/Nahna

Tuesday 28 May

7.51pm


From Raj Nahna to Brook Barrington

Can you please give me a call.

8.54pm

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

s9(2)(g)(i)



8.59pm


Andrew Hampton's contact details texted to Raj Nahna by Brook Barrington.

Wednesday 29 May

6.07am

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

s9(2)(g)(i)



8.03am

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

Raj – might we have a quick chat when you have a moment. BB

3.29pm

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

Raj - I have some information that might be of interest. Not urgent.

10.44pm

From Raj Nahna to Brook Barrington

s9(2)(g)(i)

10.47pm

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

s9(2)(g)(i)

10.48pm

From Raj Nahna to Brook Barrington

s9(2)(g)(i)

10.55pm

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

s9(2)(g)(i)

Thursday 30 May

6.53am

From Brook Barrington to Raj Nahna

Raj: to note: From Andrew Hampton, GCSB: Hi Stuff story says Tsy use common web platform and therefore problem could be widespread. Just confirming with Paul James that's not the case and will get it corrected. Paul confirmed and my coms people talking to stuff now.

6.58am

From Raj Nahna to Brook Barrington

Thanks.

Text messages

Barrington/Hughes

Tuesday 28 May

8.44pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Peter, you asked for further advice about the possibility of an injunction. While a hacker.... (see my text to Raj Nahna at 8.54pm on 28 May)

8.53pm

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Thank you.

9.20pm

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Forwarded Stuff story: "Budget leak referred to Police"

10.03pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Confirmed. Gabs will front media in the morning BB.

Wednesday 29 May

5.48am

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Good morning Brook. Just leaving for the train. Might I give you a call around 7.30am to calibrate next actions. Peter.

5.54am

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Yes That would be good. Was a crime committed? That is for NZP to determine but s252 of the Crimes Act does cover "unauthorised access". CERT NZ has some useful information too. And Sam Sachdeva on Newsroom is the best of the media so far on this. Let's talk when you have journeyed and I have reconnoitred! BB

6.03am

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Yes that is where we had got to on the first point as well. I have some further thoughts on other issues. Talk soon. Peter.

6.07am

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

David Farrar on Kiwiblog is also worth a read.

6.08am

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Ta

12.23pm

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Do we want Paul James at the 1.15pm meeting?

12.28pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Might be sensible, I think.

7.45pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Got it [SSC draft media release]. Will revert ASAP.

7.48pm

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Version 2 picking up the point we discussed on your email now.

8.58pm

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Evening. You should all have on email the draft SSC media statements. Peter.

10.54pm

From Brook Barrington to Peter Hughes

Peter: for completeness: any statement or course of action you might make a review or investigation [sic] should be cautious in not committing the Govt or a Minister to any process they have not yet had the opportunity to consider. This, or any reference to the Inquiries Act, would set hares running. Your statement steers clear of all of this – own motion, system inquiry, assurance – and I don't see an issue here, but wanted to be sure you had registered the full range of equities. Cheers. BB

Thursday 30 May

3.46am

From Peter Hughes to Brook Barrington

Good morning Brook. Not quite sure of your meaning here. A State Services Commissioner Inquiry uses powers in the Inquiries Act but it is an SSC Inquiry not a Ministerial Inquiry or a Government Inquiry under the Act. We will be careful to ensure that distinction is made. Can you confirm that that is the issue to manage or otherwise. Ta. Peter.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Text messages

Barrington/Makhlouf

Wednesday 29 May

8.07pm

From Gabriel Makhlouf to Brook Barrington

Draft attached.

9.32pm

From Gabriel Makhlouf to Brook Barrington

Media statement to be issued at 5am in your in-box.

9.35pm

From Brook Barrington to Gabriel Makhlouf

Received. Well done, Gabs. BB

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Voice message received from Andrew Hampton on 29 May at 3.06pm (this voice message was not accessed until well after the meeting on Wednesday, 29 May at 4.30pm)

Hi Brook, Andrew here. My people working with Treasury and I have to say Treasury IT people have been really open and good to work with – have got to the bottom of not just the problem but what caused it.

Treasury set up a clone website with all the Budget data on it which they were progressively loading information on with the intention of switching on to clone website as soon as the Budget was announced. The problem is in setting up that clone website they also copied over some of the core tools of the website, including that indexing tool. So that meant that rather than having a clone website and an actual website the search tool and the indexing applied to both. So it's very much a human error unfortunately. At least we know what it is.

We will have both a note outlining that finding for 4.30pm as well as a form of words should someone be inclined to say publicly where we've got to.

Commissioner Hughes is keen for me to do something around general assurance. What assurance can we give/advice to other agencies to make sure they've not doing the same thing. I'll just think a bit about what that looks like – it's probably more of the advice space than the assurance one.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Brook Barrington [DPMC]

From: Anneliese Parkin [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 11:54 AM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC]; Angela Graham [DPMC]; Tania Warburton [DPMC]
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC]
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

And Herald, with Mr Robertson denying the figures came from the Beehive.

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2019, 11:32 AM
To: Angela Graham [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a), Anneliese Parkin [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Noted. Helpful.

Thank you very much. Keep at it!

BB

From: Angela Graham [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 11:17 AM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a); Anneliese Parkin [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

I've said the "Supplementary Estimates" (which is what I heard from the office) but this seems unlikely to me as normally there would be no budget information in the Supps. More likely they mean the Estimates, but let us not jump to conclusions until we have heard from Treasury.

From: Angela Graham [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 11:08 AM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a); Anneliese Parkin [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Subject: Budget leak - what we know so far

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

The document that has been released is called "Overview of the Votes". This is a document that was produced for last year's budget, but not this year's budget. However, the numbers in the document have been updated from

2018 budget numbers to 2019 budget numbers. The document is incomplete (some Votes are included, but not others).

The working hypothesis is that a budget document has been leaked, and the numbers have been used to update one of last year's budget docs (in order to disguise the source doc).

Based on the fact that some votes are included but not others, Treasury currently believes that the most likely source of the leak is the first batch of the Supplementary Estimates to go to the printer (because of its length, the Supps are printed in batches). But what Treasury is now doing is looking at each of the updated numbers in the leaked document, and trying to match it to a source.

Treasury is best placed to determine which document was leaked, and that is what they are doing now. Once that has been determined, Treasury and the 7th floor will be looking at who had access to the document.

7 and 9 are working on the proposed media response. They were a bit preoccupied just now, but I will pop down again in an hour or so for an update.

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Brook Barrington [DPMC]

From: Anneliese Parkin [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 12:31 PM
To: Angela Graham [DPMC]; Brook Barrington [DPMC]
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC]
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

Ok ta

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Angela Graham [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2019, 12:24 PM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a), Anneliese Parkin [DPMC]
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

Treasury advises that they still think the most likely source is the Estimates, based on the way the numbers have been cut and presented, and the fact that the selection of Votes released matches the first batch of votes sent to the printer. That said, there are some discrepancies in the figures and Treasury is chasing these up to see if they shed any light. (They could also just be human error, or an attempt to throw off the scent).

Note that if it is the Estimates docs that were leaked, that pretty much rules out the Beehive as a source. Agencies having access to the Estimates are Treasury, the printers, PCO and OAG. Treasury is also looking at which of these agencies received the document in batches (only the printers as far as we know, but this is tbc).

Treasury (Gabs) is coming over at 1pm to help prepare the MoF for question time; the office has offered to update me again after that.

From: Angela Graham [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 11:17 AM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a); Anneliese Parkin [DPMC]
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Budget leak - what we know so far

I've said the "Supplementary Estimates" (which is what I heard from the office) but this seems unlikely to me as normally there would be no budget information in the Supps. More likely they mean the Estimates, but let us not jump to conclusions until we have heard from Treasury.

From: Angela Graham [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 11:08 AM
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a); Anneliese Parkin [DPMC]
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Budget leak - what we know so far

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

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The working hypothesis is that a budget document has been leaked, and the numbers have been used to update one of last year's budget docs (in order to disguise the source doc).

Based on the fact that some votes are included but not others, Treasury currently believes that the most likely source of the leak is the first batch of the Supplementary Estimates to go to the printer (because of its length, the Supps are printed in batches). But what Treasury is now doing is looking at each of the updated numbers in the leaked document, and trying to match it to a source.

Treasury is best placed to determine which document was leaked, and that is what they are doing now. Once that has been determined, Treasury and the 7th floor will be looking at who had access to the document.

7 and 9 are working on the proposed media response. They were a bit preoccupied just now, but I will pop down again in an hour or so for an update.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Brook Barrington [DPMC]

From: Brook Barrington [DPMC]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 May 2019 10:24 PM
To: Kevin Burnett [DPMC]; Hamish Rogers [DPMC]; Tania Warburton [DPMC]; Cecile Hillyer [DPMC]; Catherine Delore [DPMC]; s9(2)(a) [DPMC]
Subject: RE: Minister Robertson to do media round tomorrow morning [UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear All

I understand that in fact it is Gabs who will be taking media calls in the morning.

Please ensure that any media points are copied to him, too.

Many thanks. BB

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Kevin Burnett [DPMC] s9(2)(a)
Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2019, 9:07 PM
To: Hamish Rogers s9(2)(a), Brook Barrington [DPMC]
s9(2)(a), Tania Warburton [DPMC] s9(2)(a), Cecile Hillyer
[DPMC] s9(2)(a), Catherine Delore [DPMC] s9(2)(a), s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) @dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Minister Robertson to do media round tomorrow morning [UNCLASSIFIED]

Hamish (& s9(2)(a)),

Acknowledged. Good work. KJB//

from Kevin's iPhone
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Hamish Rogers s9(2)(a)
Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2019, 21:05
To: Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a), Kevin Burnett [DPMC]
s9(2)(a), Tania Warburton [DPMC] s9(2)(a), Cecile Hillver [DPMC]
s9(2)(a), Catherine Delore [DPMC] s9(2)(a), s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) @dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: Minister Robertson to do media round tomorrow morning

[RESTRICTED][SEEMAIL]

Evening all,

FYI, PMO have been in touch to say Minister Robertson is doing early morning media re tonight's reporting of a potential hack on Treasury.

MoF/PMO have requested some background lines on the NCSC and their role. I've spoken to Cherie. We have these on hand already so will send them up to PMO.

Regards,

Hamish

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

Editor's note: Hamish Rogers, Private Secretary from the Office
of the Prime Minister

Released under the Official Information Act 1982


Brook Barrington [DPMC]

From: Gabriel Makhoulouf [TSY]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2019 11:01 PM
To: Paul James
Cc: Peter Hughes; Brook Barrington [DPMC]; ^GCSB: Andrew Hampton
Subject: Re: Embargoed until 5am 30/5/19: Media statement

Thanks Paul. I'm happy either way but probably easier for you to let him know.

Gabs

Gabriel Makhoulouf | Secretary to the Treasury | The Treasury
s9(2)(a)

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[UNCLASSIFIED]

On 29/05/2019, at 21:40, Paul James s9(2)(a) wrote:

Thanks Gabs, given the explicit reference to Parliamentary Services in your media statement I think it would be good to give the GM (CE equivalent) of Parliamentary Services a quick heads up. Media may well approach them direct.

DIA use their ICT platform in the Parliamentary Precinct and we have lots of points of engagement with them currently.

I'm happy to make contact, or for Brook or you to do so.

Regards
Paul

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Gabriel Makhoulouf [TSY] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:31 PM
To: Peter Hughes; Brook Barrington [DPMC]; ^GCSB: Andrew Hampton; Paul James
Subject: Embargoed until 5am 30/5/19: Media statement

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Gabs

Gabriel Makhoulf | Secretary to the Treasury | Te Tai Ōhanga – The Treasury
s9(2)(a)

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THE TREASURY**

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Brook Barrington [DPMC]

From: Brook Barrington [DPMC]
Sent: Friday, 31 May 2019 3:44 PM
To: Clare Ward [DPMC]
Cc: Kevin Burnett [DPMC]
Subject: FW: Managing information prior to release in a digital environment: updated guidance

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Clare

For action, please. Note the assurance requirement.

BB

From: Paul James s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 31 May 2019 3:40 PM
To: Andrew Bridgman s9(2)(a); Andrew Crisp s9(2)(a); ^GCSB:
Andrew Hampton s9(2)(a); Andrew Kibblewhite s9(2)(a);
Ashley Bloomfield s9(2)(a); Bernadette Cavanagh s9(2)(a);
Bill Perry s9(2)(a); Brook Barrington [DPMC] s9(2)(a); Carolyn
Tremain s9(2)(a); Chris Seed s9(2)(a); Christine Stevenson
s9(2)(a); ^PikeRiver: Dave Gawn s9(2)(a);
Debbie Power s9(2)(a); Dorothy Adams s9(2)(a); Gabriel Makhoulf
[TSY] s9(2)(a); Grainne Moss s9(2)(a); ^Defence: Helene Quilter
s9(2)(a); Iona Holsted s9(2)(a); John Omblor
s9(2)(a); Julie Read s9(2)(a); Kevin Short s9(2)(a); Lewis
Holden s9(2)(a); Lil Anderson s9(2)(a); Lisa Barrett
s9(2)(a); ^STATS: Liz MacPherson s9(2)(a); ^DOC: Lou Sanson
s9(2)(a); Mac Leauanae s9(2)(a); ^TPK: Michelle Hippolite
s9(2)(a); Mike Bush s9(2)(a); ^IRD: Naomi Ferguson
s9(2)(a); Nick Pole s9(2)(a); Paul James s9(2)(a);
Peter Hughes s9(2)(a); ^TRANSPORT: Peter Mersi s9(2)(a); Ray Smith
s9(2)(a); NZSIS: Rebecca Kitteridge s9(2)(a); Renee Graham
s9(2)(a); ^CrownLaw: Una Jagose s9(2)(a); ^MFE: Vicky
Robertson s9(2)(a); ^PCO: Fiona Leonard s9(2)(a);
Cc: s9(2)(a) @dia.govt.nz>
Subject: Managing information prior to release in a digital environment: updated guidance

[SEEMAIL][IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora tātou,

As you'll all be aware, Treasury has identified a vulnerability in its process for releasing information to its website. This was able to be exploited to access Budget information before its official release. As GCDO and GCISO, we have commissioned further guidance for agencies on measures that you can take to manage information prior to release in a digital environment.

The updated guidance can be found at <https://www.digital.govt.nz/standards-and-guidance/governance/managing-online-channels/web-information-and-data-lifecycle/managing-information-prior-to-release>. This guidance is applicable to all government websites and digital services. While in this particular instance the website in question is

not hosted on the AoG Common Web Platform (CWP), agencies must be vigilant of processes to protect information, regardless of the platform that their website is hosted on.

Please provide both of us with your assurance that your agency has reviewed its own internal guidance and processes to confirm that they are consistent with this updated guidance, and addressed any vulnerabilities in your staging of information prior to web publishing, **by Wed 12 June 2019**.

If you need assistance, please reach out to either of us directly, or your staff can approach s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) [@dia.govt.nz](mailto: @dia.govt.nz).

As a matter of good practice, we also encourage you to share this guidance with Crown entities or other subsidiary agencies that you monitor, especially those that publish potentially sensitive information on the web, and support those entities to understand best practice in this area. You may wish to seek your own assurance from those entities that they are managing their risks in this area.

Ngā mihi,

Paul James, Government Chief Digital Officer

Andrew Hampton, Government Chief Information Security Officer



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs



GOVERNMENT
COMMUNICATIONS
SECURITY BUREAU
TE TIRA TIAKI

Brook Barrington [DPMC]

Subject: Catch up Gabs & Peter and Brook
Location: Gab's meeting room at TSY

Start: Tue 28/05/2019 2:30 PM
End: Tue 28/05/2019 3:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Gabriel Makhlouf [TSY]
Required Attendees: s9(2)(a) Brook Barrington [DPMC]

Categories: SSC and other CE meetings

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Brook Barrington [DPMC]

Subject: Peter : Gabs : Brook : Andrew : Paul
Location: SSC, 2 The Terrace, Level 10, Beeby Room

Start: Wed 29/05/2019 1:15 PM
End: Wed 29/05/2019 2:15 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Peter Hughes

Categories: SSC and other CE meetings

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Brook Barrington [DPMC]

Subject: Peter : Gabs : Brook : Andrew : Paul
Location: SSC, 2 The Terrace, Level 10, Beeby Room

Start: Wed 29/05/2019 4:30 PM
End: Wed 29/05/2019 5:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Peter Hughes

Categories: SSC and other CE meetings

Released under the Official Information Act 1982