



BRIEFING

2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations and 2025/26 Main Estimates: Vote BSI – Media and Communications portfolio

Date:	8 April 2025	Priority:	High
Security classification:	Budget - Sensitive	Tracking number:	0009883

Action sought		
	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Paul Goldsmith Minister for Media and Communications	Approve content related to your portfolio to be included in the 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations and 2025/26 main Estimates for Vote Business, Science and Innovation	1:00pm, 11 April 2025
	Approve non-financial performance information, for appropriations you are responsible for, in this Vote	

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Telephone		1st contact
Privacy of natural persons	Manager, External Reporting - Corporate and Digital Shared Services	Privacy of natural persons	Privacy of natural persons	
James Hartley	General Manager - Communications, Infrastructure and Trade		Privacy of natural persons	
Privacy of natural persons	Policy Director - Communications, Infrastructure and Trade		Privacy of natural persons	✓ (for any queries related Media & Communications branch)
	Manager, Finance Business Partner, Building and Resource Markets		Privacy of natural persons	✓ (for any queries related to Estimates financial information)

The following departments/agencies have been consulted

Minister's office to complete:

☐ Noted

☐ Overtaken by Events

☐ Approved

☐ Needs change

☐ See Minister's Notes

☐ Declined

☐ Seen

☐ Withdrawn

Comments



BRIEFING

2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations and 2025/26 Main Estimates: Vote BSI – Media and Communications portfolio

Date:	8 April 2025	Priority:	High
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Purpose

To seek your approval for:

- the financial information in the 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations and 2025/26 Main Estimates (together known as the Estimates), and
- changes to non-financial performance information (ie measures) to be incorporated into the Estimates.

Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) recommends that you:

- a. **Approve** content related to appropriations in your portfolio for the Estimates, as set out in Annexes 1 and 2, subject to final Cabinet Budget decisions on 14 April 2025

Approved / Not Approved

- b. **Approve** changes to non-financial performance information related to your portfolio in the Estimates, as set out in Annex 3, subject to final Cabinet Budget decisions on 14 April 2025

Approved / Not Approved

- c. **Approve** MBIE to make non-significant corrections to the Estimates, following their submission to the Minister of Finance, if required to address feedback from the Treasury

Approved / Not Approved

- d. **Note** that, subject to your approval of the Estimates content for your portfolio, the Minister for Economic Growth, as the lead Minister for Vote Business, Science and Innovation, will submit the Estimates to the Minister of Finance **by 1:00 pm on 15 April 2025** on behalf of all appropriation Ministers within the Vote

Noted

- e. **Note** that the Minister of Finance will provide you with a list of Budget financial recommendations following the 14 April 2025 Cabinet meeting, and request your counter

signature on recommendations related to your portfolio

Noted



James Hartley
**General Manager - Communications,
Infrastructure and Trade**
Building, Resources and Markets, MBIE

07/04/2025

Hon Paul Goldsmith
Minister for Media and Communications

___ / ___ / 2025

Background

1. On budget day legislation is passed, and documents are published showing the funding provided to Government agencies.
2. The Supplementary Estimates set out the changes to the 2024/25 financial year spending since Budget 2024. The 2025/26 Main Estimates detail all proposed spending for the next financial year, to be published at Budget 2025. The Estimates also include performance information for each appropriation (specific areas of spending within portfolios), explaining what is intended to be achieved with the funding.
3. The information in the Estimates supports Parliament's examination of appropriations for the forthcoming year. It also provides a base to assess what has been achieved with each appropriation at the end of the financial year.
4. This briefing presents the 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates and 2025/26 Estimates of Appropriations for Vote BSI, which include details of appropriations you are responsible for as Minister for Media and Communications. These are attached as Annexes 1 and 2.

Information in the Estimates

2024/25 Supplementary Estimates

5. The attached 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates (**Annex 1**) contains any changes since the prior year's Main Estimates were published at Budget 2024. These include:
 - new appropriations established during the year,
 - changes to baselines approved through the Baseline Updates in October 2024 and March 2025,
 - changes to non-financial performance information approved at MBU, and
 - other baseline changes and funding decisions made by Cabinet or joint Ministers which have an impact on the 2024/25 financial year.

2025/26 Main Estimates

6. The attached 2025/26 Main Estimates (**Annex 2**) set out the spending intentions for the next financial year and include:
 - financial details of all appropriations in your portfolio, including explanations for significant changes for next year compared to the current year,
 - for large appropriations, the components of appropriations above \$50 million,
 - non-financial performance information for each appropriation and where performance results will be reported at year-end, and
 - information about current and past Budget initiatives.

Performance measures (non-financial performance information)

7. MBIE has identified some proposed changes to incorporate into the Estimates, as shown in **Annex 3**. These are subject to your approval and if not approved will be removed from the final version.

Next steps

8. Subject to your approval, please sign and return this briefing to MBIE by **1:00pm on Friday, 11 April 2025**
9. The Minister for Economic Growth, as the lead minister for Vote Business, Science and Innovation, will submit the Estimates to the Minister of Finance on behalf of all appropriation Ministers in the Vote by **1:00 pm on Tuesday, 15 April 2025**
10. MBIE has worked with the Treasury in developing the Estimates documents, however Treasury officials may provide further feedback prior to the publication of the Estimates documents (after you have approved and submitted them to the Minister of Finance). Where this feedback is minor (i.e. non-significant), MBIE will address Treasury's feedback on the Estimates.

Budget Approval and Moratorium

11. On 14 April 2025, Cabinet will be asked to agree to detailed financial recommendations for Budget 2025.
12. The Budget moratorium will start from 14 April 2025. The Budget moratorium is the period beginning on the day Cabinet approves the Budget package and ending after the Minister of Finance has delivered the Budget (22 May 2025). Changes to appropriations cannot be made during this time.

Annexes

Annex 1: 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations for Vote BSI

Annex 2: 2025/26 Main Estimates of Appropriations for Vote BSI

Annex 3: Proposed non-financial changes for the Media and Communications portfolio

**Annex 1: 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations for
Vote BSI**

Annex 2: 2025/26 Main Estimates of Appropriations for Vote BSI

Annex 3: Proposed non-financial changes for the Media and Communications portfolio

New information is underlined, and removed information is ~~stricken through~~.

Appropriation title	Details of change	2024/25 Estimates Standard	2024/25 Supplementary Estimates Standard	2025/26 Budget Standard	Reason for change	Minister's Response
Communications: Regulation of Telecommunications Services 2022-2025	Assessment of Performance					
	Number of regulatory products published under the Telecommunications Act 2001 (see Notes 1 and 2)	New Measure	At least 11	At least 11	The Commerce Commission proposes to remove the existing measure and replace with a new measure to align wording with similar measures used in our market regulation functions as part of a review of output measures in this area. The proposed new definition better reflects the range of regulatory products produced by the Commission. The previous definition used language that described outputs produced under the Commerce Act and no longer covers the breadth of outputs produced under more recent sector specific legislation.	Approved/ Not Approved
	Number of determinations (includes determinations, clarifications, reviews, codes and amendments) (see Notes 1 and 2)	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Specified Fibre Area (SFA) assessment	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Telecommunications Development Levy (TDL) determination	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Telecommunications Dispute Resolution scheme review (at least once every three years)	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Mobile Termination Access Services Review (MTAS)	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	Number of monitoring and insights reports published under	New Measure	At least 18	At least 18	The Commerce Commission proposes to remove the existing measure and replace with a new	Approved/ Not Approved

Appropriation title	Details of change	2024/25 Estimates Standard	2024/25 Supplementary Estimates Standard	2025/26 Budget Standard	Reason for change	Minister's Response
	the Telecommunications Act 2001 (See Notes 3 and 4)				measure to align measure wording with similar measures used in our market regulation functions as part of a review of output measures in this area. The proposed new definition better reflects the range of regulatory products produced by the Commission.	
	Number of reports completed (monitoring reports, summary and analysis reports and information disclosure reports) including but not limited to (see Note 2)	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	Fibre report	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	At least seven telecommunications reports including but not limited to:	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Measuring Broadband NZ (MBNZ) reports	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	• Two Retail Service Quality (RSQ) reports.	-	Measure Removed	Measure Removed		Approved/ Not Approved
	Notes					
Note 1 – This performance indicator was revised for 2024/25 and outyears from the previous measure of ‘determinations’ to better reflect the range of rule making functions the Commission now has under market regulation legislation. The revised performance indicator expands the scope of outputs compared to previous years. Performance in 2024/25 and outyears is therefore not entirely comparable to previous financial years. Note 2 – This is a measure of the number of regulatory products delivered under the Telecommunications Act 2001. ‘Regulatory products’ means:						

Appropriation title	Details of change	2024/25 Estimates Standard	2024/25 Supplementary Estimates Standard	2025/26 Budget Standard	Reason for change	Minister's Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regulatory rules made, reviewed, or amended recommendations made to the Minister in respect of regulatory rules guidance published about regulatory rules, and reports published about compliance with regulatory rules. <p>'Regulatory rules' includes determinations, codes, directions, standards, legislation, and dispute resolution schemes.</p> <p>Note 3 – This performance indicator was revised for 2024/25 and outyears from the previous measure to better reflect the range of monitoring and insights reports the Commission produces through its market regulation functions. The revised performance indicator expands the scope of outputs compared to previous years. Performance in 2024/25 and outyears is therefore not entirely comparable to previous financial years. The budget standard was revised for 2024/25 only from 'At least 8' to 'At least 18' to reflect the number of monitoring and insights outputs expected to be completed in the 2024/25 financial year under the revised definition.</p> <p>Note 4 – This is a measure of the number of monitoring and insights reports delivered under the Telecommunications Act 2001. 'Monitoring and insights reports' means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the publication of information to inform or influence market participants or outcomes, and the publication of information about the performance of markets or participants. 					
	2024/25 Reporting Requirements					
	Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Commerce Commission in its annual report.					
Media and Communications: Regulation of Telecommunications Services 2026-2029	Intention 2025/26 and outyears					
	This appropriation is intended to achieve the promotion of competition in broadband and mobile markets for the benefit of consumers through regulation of <u>wholesale telecommunications services and monitoring of how the retail market is performing by the Commerce Commission.</u>				Effective from 2025/26 and outyears. The intention statement was selected to outline the result sought.	Approved/ Not Approved
	Assessment of Performance 2025/26 and outyears					
	<u>Number of regulatory products published under the Telecommunications Act 2001 (See Note 1)</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>New measure</u>	At least 11 <u>At least 9</u>	Effective from 2025/26 and outyears. These measures were selected as indicator of performance for this appropriation. These same measures were in the previous MYA: Communications:	Approved/ Not Approved
	<u>Percentage of Telecommunications Act 2001</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>100%</u>		Approved/

Appropriation title	Details of change	2024/25 Estimates Standard	2024/25 Supplementary Estimates Standard	2025/26 Budget Standard	Reason for change	Minister's Response
	<u>determinations completed by statutory deadlines</u>				Regulation of Telecommunications Services 2025-2028 (M8) (A17). The Commerce Commission proposes to revise the budget standard for two of these performance indicators to account for changes in the related work programme and based on expected delivery of monitoring and insights reports in 2025/26.	Not Approved
	<u>Number of monitoring and insights reports published under the Telecommunications Act 2001 (See Note 1)</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>At least 18</u>		Approved/ Not Approved
				<u>At least 14</u>		
	<u>Quality assurance processes for determinations and code amendments are in place and applied</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>New measure</u>	<u>100%</u>		
	Notes					
	<u>Note 1 – Effective from 2025/26 and outyears. These measures were selected as indicator of performance for this appropriation. These same measures were in the previous MYA: Communications: Regulation of Telecommunications Services 2025-2028. The Commerce Commission proposes to revise the budget standard for two of these performance indicators to account for changes in the related work programme and based on expected delivery of monitoring and insights reports in 2025/26.</u>					Approved/ Not Approved
	Year end reporting requirements 2025/26 and outyears					
	<u>Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Commerce Commission in its annual report.</u>				Effective from 2025/26 and outyears. Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Commerce Commission in its annual report.	Approved/ Not Approved
Digital Economy and Communications: 3.5 GHz rural and regional connectivity initiatives (M8) (A17)	Intention 2024/25 and outyears					
	<u>This appropriation is intended to achieve Crown infrastructure Partners to commission initiatives to support rural connectivity for New Zealanders.</u>				Effective for 2024/25 and outyears. The intention statement has been updated to the new agency.	Approved/ Not Approved
	<u>This appropriation is intended to achieve National Infrastructure Funding and Financing Limited (NIFFCo) to commission initiatives to support rural connectivity for New Zealanders.</u>					

Appropriation title	Details of change	2024/25 Estimates Standard	2024/25 Supplementary Estimates Standard	2025/26 Budget Standard	Reason for change	Minister's Response
	Assessment of Performance 2025/26 only					
	Rural connectivity improvement works that have been completed in accordance with the funding agreement			100%	Performance indicator applies from 2025/2026.	Approved/ Not Approved
	Year end reporting requirements 2024/25 and outyears					
	Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by Crown Infrastructure Partners in its annual report.				Effective for 2024/25 and outyears. The reporting location has been updated to the new agency.	Approved/ Not Approved
	Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by National Infrastructure Funding and Financing Limited (NIFFCo) in its annual report.					
Media and Communications: Rural and Marae Connectivity (M8) (A17)	Year end reporting requirements 2024/25 only					
	Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by Crown Infrastructure Partners in its annual report.				Effective for 2024/25 only. The reporting location has been updated to the new agency.	Approved/ Not Approved
	Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by National Infrastructure Funding and Financing Limited (NIFFCo) in its annual report.					