

Tax Working Group Public Submissions Information Release

Release Document

September 2018

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Key to sections of the Official Information Act 1982 under which information has been withheld.

Certain information in this document has been withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- [1] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people;
- [2] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Official Information Act has been made, as listed above. For example, a [1] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(a).

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

30 April 2018

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To whom it may concern

Environment Canterbury interest in the Future of Tax

We are writing to express Environment Canterbury's interest in the Tax Working Group's examination of the future of tax. While we do not intend to make a submission on the Future of Tax: Submissions Background Paper, we will track progress of the Group's work, and consider a submission on the interim report later in the year.

We are particularly interested in two components, although will be better placed to comment once we have a better sense of how the Group progresses these:

- Environmental taxation – the use of the tax system to address environmental externalities has the potential to improve environmental outcomes, including at the regional/local level. Should the Group progress this line of enquiry, we are well placed to provide insight into environmental challenges faced in Canterbury, the drivers of these, and offer the experiences we've gained in seeking acceptance from the regulated community for the environmental limits and rules we have in place.
- The needs of local government – local government faces increasing funding issues, and this impacts on the ability to pay for those public services local government is responsible for. We will be interested in whether/how the Group will consider this, or how the Group's work will align with the Government's upcoming review of local government costs and revenue.

We look forward to the interim report later this year, and ask that we be updated as your work progresses.

Yours sincerely
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Steve Lowndes
Chair

CC: Councillor David Caygill