



OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER
BUREAU DU DIRECTEUR PARLEMENTAIRE DU BUDGET

March 5th, 2025

The Honourable Bill Blair
Minister of National Defence
National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
13th Floor, North Tower
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2

Dnd_mnd@forces.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0818

Dear Minister Blair:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent and non-partisan analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about matters related to the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates, certain other government documents, and the cost of proposals. In carrying out my mandate, I often require information held by government departments and Crown corporations and I am entitled to free and timely access – subject to limited exceptions – to such information under section 79.4 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

I am currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to paragraph 79.2(1)(b) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports on matters of particular significance relating to the nation's finances or economy that are listed in an annual work plan.

For this analysis, I am requesting:

1. Once final approvals are received, an updated profile of actual/planned capital spending under the pending Annual Capital Investment Fund (CIF) Report, by project on both a cash and accrual basis, for 2016-17 to 2043-2044.
 - a) Please include the minor capital forecast and any other planned non-project capital spending;
 - b) Please include residual spending items reflecting planned capital spending not yet allocated to specific projects, if any, disaggregated to the extent any broad allocation has been determined.
2. Once final approvals are received, a crosswalk showing all changes relative to the cash spending profile relative to the update we received in August 2023.
 - a) Please identify incremental spending allocated from the Our North Strong And Free (ONSAF) funding decision, including the ONSAF Annex A line-item from which funding was allocated.

3. For each project, please provide the associated environment, type, asset class, defence capability investment area, key industrial capability, project number, project name, project phase, total spending, description and any other readily available classifications or descriptors.
4. For all projects with a life-cycle cost estimate exceeding \$100 million for which funding has not yet been allocated, a description of the project and the expected cash and accrual spending profile of that project.
5. For all projects with a life-cycle cost estimate exceeding \$1 billion, the Center for Costing in Defence's cost estimate for that project.
6. A disaggregation of DND's Vote 5 allotments, expenditures and reprofiled funds for 2023-24 as reported in the Public Accounts (Volume II, Section 18: National Defence: Budgetary details by allotment), disaggregated by project or non-project item and distinguishing between capital spending included in the Investment Plan and any other spending included under Vote 5.
 - a) For reprofiled funds, please provide DND's classification of the reason for the reprofile (ex. efficiencies, industry delays, or government delays);
 - b) Please provide an aggregate breakdown of the other spending included under Vote 5.
7. A breakdown of the funding available for DND within the fiscal framework across the ONSAF planning period, specifically identifying the accrual space allocated for the accrual profile of DND's existing and planned tangible capital assets.
8. A breakdown of the multi-year reference levels approved by the Treasury Board of Canada for the Department of National Defence, identifying the portion allocated for capital spending, including the explanation of how those reference levels were determined by the defence escalator and other policy decisions.
9. DND's latest Annual Investment Plan and Technical Investment Plan, and the prior four annual versions of those reports.

In order to provide the analysis to parliamentarians in a timely manner, I ask the information to be provided to my office no later than **March 28th, 2025**. If access to the requested information cannot be granted by that date, a response must be provided by you or your deputy minister as soon as possible.

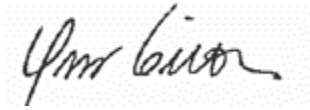
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Ben Segel-Brown can be contacted directly at Ben.Segel-Brown@parl.gc.ca, 613-407-8357.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by March 28th, 2025, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. Should you refuse to provide access to the requested information, you or your deputy minister must provide a written justification for the refusal as required under section 79.41 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

The response letter will be posted on the PBO website and, therefore, it should not be marked "confidential". As well, the requested information should be attached separately. If this information is confidential, please clearly mark it as such, either on the electronic spreadsheet or the hard copy version.

Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons and promoting greater budget transparency and accountability are the PBO's primary objectives. The degree to which this is possible depends, to a large extent, on free and timely access to quality information held by government departments. In doing so, you are assisting us in better serving the Senate, the House of Commons, and their members.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yves Giroux", is placed over a light gray dotted rectangular background.

Yves Giroux

Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Mathew Sajkunovic, Privy Council Office, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Stefanie Beck, Deputy Minister, National Defence

Attachment: Reply form for IR0818