



Cabinet Office Circular

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30 June 2009
(updated as at
6 April 2010)

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Intended for:

All Ministers
All Chief Executives
Chief of Staff, Prime Minister's Office
All Senior Private Secretaries
All Private Secretaries
Chief Parliamentary Counsel

Cabinet Committee Membership: Update

The Prime Minister has agreed to a number of changes to the membership of Cabinet committees to take account of the changes in Ministerial responsibilities and the appointment of a new Minister that took effect on 16 June 2009. An updated list of the membership for Cabinet committees is attached for your information.

Rebecca Kitteridge
Secretary of the Cabinet

Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR)

To set the overall strategic direction and policy priorities of the government.

This committee will not be used for detailed policy development or implementation, which will be considered by the relevant policy committee once the strategic direction has been set.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Tony Ryall

Hon Dr Nick Smith

Hon Judith Collins

Hon Anne Tolley

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Steven Joyce

Relevant Portfolios

All relevant portfolios

Frequency

Meets weekly as required

Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH)

To consider appointments to statutory and other government agencies, chief executive appointments, and nominations for New Zealand Royal Honours, and associated policy.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Tony Ryall

Hon Anne Tolley

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Hon David Carter

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Georgina te Heuheu

Hon Pansy Wong

Hon Heather Roy

Hon Tariana Turia

Hon Peter Dunne

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets weekly as required

Cabinet Expenditure Control Committee (ECC)

To control and review government expenditure to improve value for money in the State sector.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Tony Ryall

Hon David Carter*

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Rodney Hide

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets weekly as required

*On 14 September 2009, the Prime Minister agreed that Hon David Carter be added to the membership of ECC.

Cabinet External Relations and Defence Committee (ERD)

To consider policy and other matters relating to foreign affairs, international trade, development assistance, and defence.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Judith Collins

Hon David Carter

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Tim Groser

Hon Dr Wayne Mapp

Hon Georgina te Heuheu

Relevant Portfolios

Defence

Disarmament and Arms Control

Foreign Affairs

Police

Trade

Frequency

Meets fortnightly (alternates with meetings of TOW)

Cabinet Committee on Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations (TOW)

To consider policy issues relating to the Treaty of Waitangi, including Treaty settlement negotiations, and foreshore and seabed issues.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Hon Georgina te Heuheu

Hon Phil Heatley

Hon Kate Wilkinson*

Hon Maurice Williamson

Hon Dr Pita Sharples

Hon Tariana Turia

Relevant Portfolios

Attorney-General

Maori Affairs

Treaty Negotiations

Frequency

Meets fortnightly (alternates with meetings of ERD)

*On 7 December 2009, the Prime Minister agreed that Hon Kate Wilkinson be added to the membership of TOW.

Cabinet Social Policy Committee (SOC)

To consider social policy issues including health, education, and welfare.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key
 Hon Bill English
 Hon Simon Power

Hon Tony Ryall

Hon Dr Nick Smith
 Hon Judith Collins
 Hon Anne Tolley
 Hon Dr Wayne Mapp

Hon Georgina te Heuheu
 Hon Paula Bennett
 Hon Phil Heatley
 Hon Pansy Wong
 Hon John Carter
 Hon Dr Pita Sharples
 Hon Tariana Turia

Relevant Portfolios

ACC
 Community and Voluntary Sector
 Disability Issues
 Ethnic Affairs
 Education
 Health
 Housing
 Maori Affairs

Pacific Island Affairs
 Senior Citizens
 Social Development and Employment
 Tertiary Education
 Veterans' Affairs
 Women's Affairs
 Youth Affairs

Frequency

Meets weekly

Cabinet Domestic Policy Committee (DOM)

To consider justice and law and order issues, and issues relating to the state sector and other domestic affairs.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key	Hon Steven Joyce
Hon Bill English	Hon Georgina te Heuheu
Hon Gerry Brownlee	Hon Paula Bennett
Hon Simon Power	Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman
Hon Tony Ryall	Hon Kate Wilkinson*
Hon Judith Collins	Hon Maurice Williamson
Hon Christopher Finlayson	Hon John Carter
Hon Murray McCully	Hon Nathan Guy
	Hon Dr Pita Sharples

Relevant Portfolios

Arts, Culture and Heritage	Internal Affairs
Archives	Justice
Attorney-General	Land Information
Broadcasting	National Library
Civil Defence	Police
Conservation	Racing
Corrections	Sport and Recreation
Courts	State Services
Immigration	Statistics

Frequency

Meets weekly

*On 14 February 2010, the Prime Minister agreed that Hon Kate Wilkinson be added to the membership of DOM.

Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee (EGI)

To consider policy issues relating to economic growth, infrastructure, environment, energy and resources.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Dr Nick Smith

Hon Anne Tolley

Hon David Carter

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Tim Groser

Hon Dr Wayne Mapp

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Phil Heatley

Hon Kate Wilkinson

Hon Maurice Williamson

Hon Nathan Guy

Hon Dr Pita Sharples

Hon Peter Dunne

Relevant Portfolios

Agriculture / Forestry

Biosecurity

Building and Construction

Commerce

Communications and IT

Consumer Affairs

Climate Change

Climate Change (International)

Consumer Affairs

Customs

Economic Development

Energy and Resources

Environment

Finance

Fisheries

Food Safety

Infrastructure

Labour

Local Government

Maori Affairs

Regulatory Reform

Revenue

Rugby World Cup

Research, Science and Technology

Small Business

State Owned Enterprises

Tourism

Trade

Transport

Frequency

Meets weekly

Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG)

To consider the legislation programme, draft Bills and regulations, and government responses to petitions, select committee reports and Law Commission reports.

Government responses to significant select committee reports and Law Commission reports should be dealt with at a policy committee if they involve new policy or amendments to existing policy.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key
 Hon Bill English
Hon Gerry Brownlee
 Hon Simon Power
 Hon Christopher Finlayson
 Hon Kate Wilkinson
 Hon Nathan Guy
 Chris Tremain (Senior Government Whip)

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets weekly

Cabinet Committee on Implementation of Auckland Governance Reforms (AGR)

To consider all matters relating to the development and implementation of the government's response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance, and the transition to the new Auckland Council.

This is a special purpose Cabinet committee, which will be established for a limited period of time to oversee the implementation of the Auckland governance reforms.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key
 Hon Bill English
 Hon Gerry Brownlee
 Hon Dr Nick Smith
 Hon Judith Collins
 Hon Steven Joyce
 Hon Paula Bennett
 Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman
 Hon Maurice Williamson
 Hon John Carter
Hon Rodney Hide (Chair)
 Hon Dr Pita Sharples

Frequency

Weekly, if required

Cabinet Committee on Domestic and External Security Co-ordination (DES)

To co-ordinate and direct the national response to a major crisis or to circumstances affecting national security (such as a natural disaster, biosecurity problem, health emergency, or terrorist/military threat) within New Zealand or involving New Zealand's interests overseas;

To consider issues of oversight, organisation and priorities for the New Zealand intelligence community and any issues which, because of their security or intelligence implications, the Prime Minister directs be considered by the committee;

To consider policy and other matters relating to domestic and external security co-ordination.

This Committee will have power to act where the need for urgent action and/or operational or security considerations required. Decisions of the committee under power to act will be reported to the next Cabinet meeting as appropriate.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Judith Collins

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Dr Wayne Mapp

With the addition of the Minister of Civil Defence for civil defence matters

Relevant Portfolios

Biosecurity

Civil Defence

Defence

Foreign Affairs

GCSB

Health

NZSIS

Police

Prime Minister

Frequency

Meets when required

Cabinet Business Committee (CBC)

To consider policy issues, appointments, bills and regulations and other matters that require decisions before the next scheduled applicable committee meeting, when other committees are not meeting.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Simon Power

Hon Tony Ryall

Hon Dr Nick Smith

Hon Judith Collins

Hon Anne Tolley

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets during non-sitting weeks as required