



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 Committees: Terms of Reference and Membership

The Prime Minister has agreed to changes to the membership of Cabinet committees to take account of the changes in Ministerial responsibilities that took effect from 14 December 2015. An updated list of the membership of Cabinet committees is attached for your information.

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Secretary of the Cabinet

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Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH)

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

Membership (Chair in bold)**Rt Hon John Key**

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Paula Bennett

Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman

Hon Amy Adams

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Hekia Parata

Hon Anne Tolley

Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-liga

Hon Maggie Barry

Hon Louise Upston

Hon Peter Dunne

Hon Te Ururoa Flavell

David Seymour

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets weekly during sitting weeks

Cabinet Business Committee (CBC)

To consider policy issues, appointments, bills and regulations, and other matters that require decisions before the next scheduled applicable Cabinet committee meeting, when other committees are not meeting and the House of Representatives is adjourned. CBC will meet only on a strictly if required basis.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Paula Bennett

Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman

Hon Amy Adams

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Simon Bridges

Hon Hekia Parata

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets during non-sitting weeks if required.

Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee (EGI)

To consider policy issues relating to economic growth, trade, infrastructure, natural resources, local government, Auckland issues, and Canterbury earthquake recovery issues.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key	Hon Todd McClay
Hon Bill English	Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-liga
Hon Gerry Brownlee	Hon Maggie Barry
Hon Steven Joyce	Hon Craig Foss
Hon Paula Bennett	Hon Jo Goodhew
Hon Amy Adams	Hon Nicky Wagner
Hon Simon Bridges	Hon Louise Upston
Hon Dr Nick Smith	Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Nathan Guy	Hon Te Ururoa Flavell
Hon Michael Woodhouse	

Relevant Portfolios

Broadcasting	Local Government
Building and Housing	Maori Development
Canterbury Earthquake Recovery	Primary Industries
Climate Change Issues	Racing
Commerce and Consumer Affairs	Regulatory Reform
Communications	Revenue
Conservation	Science and Innovation
Customs	Small Business
Economic Development	State Owned Enterprises
Energy and Resources	Statistics
Environment	Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
Finance	Tourism
Food Safety	Trade
Immigration	Transport
Internal Affairs	Workplace Relations and Safety
Land Information	

Timing

Meets weekly during sitting weeks.

Cabinet External Relations and Defence Committee (ERD)

To consider policy issues and other matters relating to foreign affairs, development assistance, and defence. (Defence procurement issues will be considered at SEC.)

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key
 Hon Bill English
 Hon Gerry Brownlee
 Hon Steven Joyce
 Hon Christopher Finlayson QC
Hon Murray McCully
 Hon Judith Collins
 Hon Nathan Guy
 Hon Michael Woodhouse
 Hon Todd McClay

Relevant Portfolios

Defence
 Foreign Affairs
 GCSB
 National Security and Intelligence
 NZSIS
 Police
 Primary Industries
 Trade

Timing

Meets fortnightly during sitting weeks (alternates with meetings of TOW).

Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG)

To consider the legislation programme, draft Bills and regulations, government responses to petitions, select committee reports, and Law Commission reports. LEG may also consider minor policy issues relating to these matters.

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

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Amy Adams

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Simon Bridges

Hon Nikki Kaye

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Tim Macindoe (Senior Government Whip)

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets weekly during sitting weeks.

Cabinet National Security Committee (NSC)

To have oversight of the national intelligence and security sector, and to consider policy and legislative proposals relating to the sector.

To co-ordinate and direct national responses to major crises or circumstances affecting national security (either domestic or international).

NSC will have Power to Act where the need for urgent action and/or operational or security considerations require it.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Amy Adams

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Murray McCully

Hon Judith Collins

Hon Michael Woodhouse

With the addition of other relevant portfolio Ministers as appropriate.

Relevant Portfolios

Civil Defence

Defence

Foreign Affairs

GCSB

National Security and Intelligence

NZSIS

Police

Prime Minister

Timing

Meets when required.

Cabinet Committee on State Sector Reform and Expenditure Control (SEC)

To control and review government expenditure to improve value for money in the State sector, including significant infrastructure and investment proposals in the State sector, and to consider State sector reform and other State sector issues.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key
Hon Bill English
 Hon Gerry Brownlee
 Hon Steven Joyce
 Hon Paula Bennett
 Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman
 Hon Amy Adams
 Hon Hekia Parata
 Hon Anne Tolley
 Hon Michael Woodhouse
 Hon Peter Dunne

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets weekly during sitting weeks.

Cabinet Social Policy Committee (SOC)

To consider social policy issues, including education, health, justice and law and order, welfare reform, child poverty and vulnerable children.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key	Hon Nikki Kaye
Hon Bill English	Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-liga
Hon Steven Joyce	Hon Maggie Barry
Hon Paula Bennett	Hon Craig Foss
Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman	Hon Jo Goodhew
Hon Amy Adams	Hon Nicky Wagner
Hon Christopher Finlayson QC	Hon Louise Upston
Hon Hekia Parata	Hon Peter Dunne
Hon Anne Tolley	Hon Te Ururoa Flavell
Hon Judith Collins	David Seymour

Relevant Portfolios

ACC	Maori Development
Arts, Culture and Heritage	Pacific Peoples
Attorney-General	Police
Community and Voluntary Sector	Seniors
Corrections	Social Development
Courts	Social Housing
Disability Issues	Sport and Recreation
Education	Veterans' Affairs
Ethnic Communities	Whanau Ora
Health	Women
Justice	Youth

Frequency

Meets weekly during sitting weeks.

Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR)

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

STR 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)

Rt Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Gerry Brownlee

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Paula Bennett

Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman

Hon Amy Adams

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Simon Bridges

Hon Hekia Parata

Hon Anne Tolley

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets on the first Monday of each sitting period or other times as arranged.

Cabinet Committee on Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations (TOW)

To consider Treaty of Waitangi settlement negotiations, and other policy issues relating to the Treaty of Waitangi.

Membership (Chair in bold)

Rt Hon John Key

Hon Bill English

Hon Steven Joyce

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC

Hon Dr Nick Smith

Hon Nathan Guy

Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-liga

Hon Maggie Barry

Hon Louise Upston

Hon Te Ururoa Flavell

Relevant Portfolios

Attorney-General

Conservation

Environment

Land Information

Local Government

Maori Development

Primary Industries

Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Frequency

Meets fortnightly during sitting weeks (alternates with meetings of ERD).