



Proactive Release

The following Cabinet paper and related Cabinet minutes have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, on behalf of Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Minister for National Security and Intelligence:

Looking Forward: Strengthening New Zealand Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Looking Forward – Strengthening New Zealand Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism (ERS-19-SUB-0026 refers)

Title of minute: Looking Forward – Strengthening New Zealand Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism (ERS-19-MIN-0026 refers)

Title of minute: Report of the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee Minute (CAB-19-MIN-0467 refers)

Some parts of these documents would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld in accordance with section 9 of the Act, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. In addition, some material has been redacted as out of scope of the release of this Cabinet paper.

Key to redaction code:

- 6(a), to avoid prejudicing the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials;
- 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion; and
- 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege.

Restricted

Office of the Minister for National Security and Intelligence
Chair, Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee

LOOKING FORWARD - STRENGTHENING NEW ZEALAND AGAINST TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Proposal

1. Six months on from New Zealand's worst terrorist attack, this paper seeks Cabinet agreement to a counter-terrorism strategy, the aim of which is bringing our nation together to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds. This strategy weights our efforts towards prevention and working together as a nation to address the root causes of violent extremism, while keeping New Zealanders safe by leveraging our high levels of trust, our tolerant and inclusive society, and strong connections in and between communities.
2. This paper also attaches the counter-terrorism work programme and communications plan that support the strategy, for Cabinet consideration. These seek to minimise the likelihood of future terrorist attacks and to provide public reassurance. It also sets out a process for responding to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques, and seeks agreement to a process for considering related Budget bids.

Executive Summary

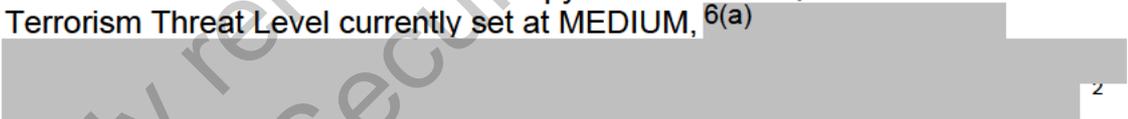
3. Terrorist incidents, and their aftermath, have the potential to divide communities, isolate minority groups, and increase polarisation. If managed well, however, the response to an incident can help build resilience by illuminating national values, increasing cohesion, and strengthening the links between government and citizens.
4. In the aftermath of the 15 March terrorist attack, the initial focus was on responding in an empathetic way to the needs of victims and their families, making amendments to firearms legislation, and generating action internationally to counter violent extremism online. Driving these decisions was the knowledge that we have a limited timeframe in which to make significant changes, and that the focus needed to be on the victims and on bringing communities together.
5. The way in which New Zealand stood together as a nation, championing the values of tolerance, democracy and unity has received positive comment globally. Six months on from the incident, it is timely to consider the strategic framework within which we consider counter-terrorism. Having experienced one incident, international evidence suggests we are at greater risk from a further attack – either inspired by the first or in retaliation. Therefore our aim is to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds, while at the same time reinforcing the values that were at the heart of our initial response. The

resulting strategy, and the associated work programme and communications plan, have been developed within that context.

6. While there was a counter-terrorism work programme in place prior to 15 March, it has grown significantly. The proposed strategy, supported by an expanded and refocused work programme, seeks to prevent such a tragedy occurring again by emphasising social inclusion¹; working together by partnering with communities; engaging the public and private sector; and exercising and maintaining the systems and capabilities necessary to respond and recover if there were to be another incident.
7. This work will be supported by a coordinated public communications plan that encourages an inclusive, engaged, aware and well-informed society to help keep New Zealanders safe.
8. This paper is written in the context of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques, which is considering what agencies knew about the attacker prior to 15 March, and whether there was anything that could have been done to prevent the terror attack.^{9(2)(g)(i)}

9. Thought has also been given to putting a robust and proportionate process in place to provide a prioritised, cross-sector view, overseen by Ministers, of any implications from the Royal Commission for Budget 2020.

New Zealand's threat environment has changed markedly since 15 March

10. The risk of another terrorist attack within New Zealand has risen since 15 March, due to the increased likelihood of a copycat or retaliatory attack. With the National Terrorism Threat Level currently set at MEDIUM,^{6(a)}

Within this context, the security needs of our communities are growing, and the public are looking to government for guidance and reassurance.
11. The 15 March terrorist attack also has implications for New Zealand's counter-terrorism profile. As shown in the immediate aftermath to the attacks of 15 March, how we respond at home can potentially impact our threat environment, including New Zealand's interests offshore.
12. It will also be important that New Zealand retains a fact-based and "source-neutral" position in response to the terrorist threat, being alert to the risk of unconscious bias towards any particular group or ideology.

¹ **Social inclusion** is the process of improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society—improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity.

² 6(a)

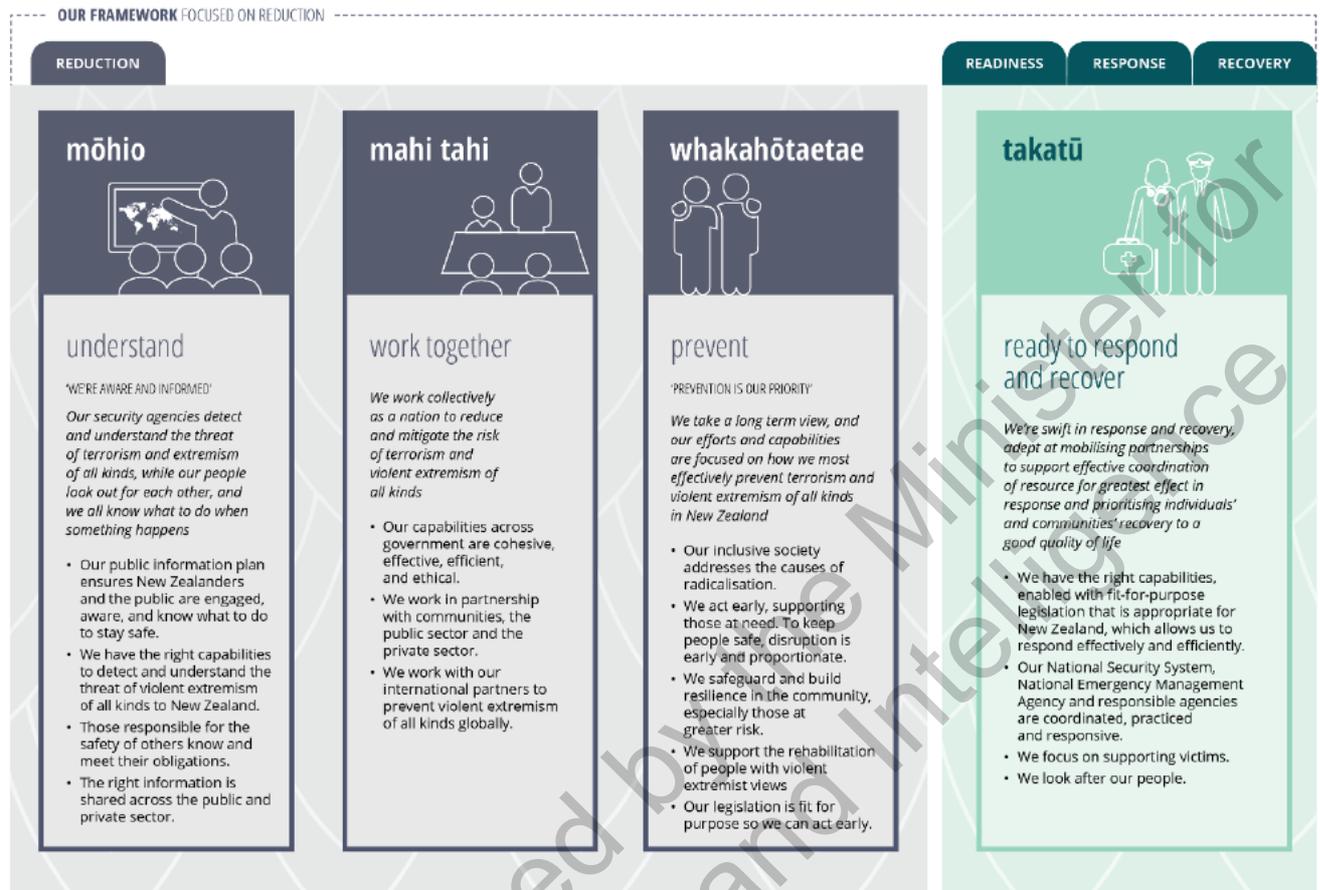

Our response to 15 March was effective, inclusive, and focused on safety

13. New Zealand Police are the lead agency for a terrorism event, and acted immediately to apprehend the offender, provide public reassurance, and commence the largest homicide investigation in New Zealand history, including bringing the first ever charges under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002.
14. Police were supported by the Officials' Committee for Domestic and External Security Coordination (ODESC) system, which provided coordination and strategic leadership at a chief executive and senior officials' level.
15. 9(2)(f)(iv)

Recognising this context, our strategy and work programme focuses on prevention and collaboration

16. The counter-terrorism strategy, supporting work programme and communications plan set out in this paper will continue the approach from 15 March – focusing on victims; emphasising social inclusion; building resilient communities; and increasing public information about terrorism without creating fear.
17. The strategy, attached at Appendix A, is guided by the aim of 'bringing together our nation to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds.' The strategy achieves this aim through a framework comprised of four pillars, as set out in diagram 1 below. These pillars focus the collective efforts of the broader counter-terrorism system on reducing the risk of terrorism by developing understanding, working together with communities and the private and public sector to prevent terrorism and violent extremism while being ready to respond and recover when needed. The strategy's reduction focus would also include enforcement, disruption and intervention actions.

AIM Bringing our nation together to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds



18. The strategy is delivered through a cohesive, long term work programme, attached at Appendix B, which takes a holistic view to the reduction of the risk of terrorism through prevention and mitigation measures, while ensuring that we are ready for further incidents.
19. This is a broad and ambitious programme of work, involving changes to legislation, improving social inclusion, engaging the private sector and civil society, reviewing our capabilities and implementing measures to protect our most vulnerable communities, with Government working in partnership to build resilience to violent extremism and terrorism throughout New Zealand.
20. In response to the 15 March terror attack, action was taken in a number of areas, with work commenced to:
 - 20.1. provide support for the victims, their families and the wider Muslim community in New Zealand;
 - 20.2. develop the Christchurch Call and work with global partners to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist online content;
 - 20.3. revise and improve the process for setting the National Terrorism Threat Level;
 - 20.4. make changes to our gun policy settings; and

- 20.5. establish the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attacks.
21. Since the 15 March terrorist attack, Cabinet agreed \$243.5 million in additional funding to support the immediate response and recovery. The majority of this additional funding was for the buy-back of firearms, but also included funding for health care, establishing the Royal Commission of Inquiry, income support for victims and their families, and expanding the capacity of the Office of Ethnic Communities.
22. 9(2)(f)(iv)
23. Looking forward, the wider counter-terrorism work programme takes the actions required to strengthen our counter-terrorism system, and deliver on our strategy. This work programme is evolving, overseen by the Counter-Terrorism Coordination Committee, governed by the Security and Intelligence Board³ of ODESC. This work will be regularly reviewed by this governance structure to ensure it is fit for purpose. Priorities of the work programme include:
- 23.1. social inclusion, which underpins all elements of the work programme;
 - 23.2. reducing racism and hate speech;
 - 23.3. keeping communities and crowded places safe;
 - 23.4. countering violent extremism online;
 - 23.5. reviewing and strengthening counter-terrorism legislation; and
 - 23.6. improving how agencies access and share information.
24. Within this work programme, those initiatives that meet the criteria for Cabinet consideration as laid out in paragraph 5.12 of the Cabinet Manual will be submitted separately for consideration by Ministers.

Social Inclusion - Building connections across society

25. Connection amongst members of society has been shown to reduce radicalisation and polarisation, and so in turn reduces the likelihood that an individual will conduct an act of terrorism. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been leading work with the Ministry of Social Development and other agencies to review the evidence on social inclusion, identify the work already underway across government, and to provide some initial advice on potential further interventions to strengthen social inclusion.

³ The Security and Intelligence Board is one of two boards responsible for governing the national security system. The Security and Intelligence Board deals with external threats and intelligence issues, and is comprised of the Chief Executives of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Government Communications Security Bureau, New Zealand Security Intelligence Service, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Defence, New Zealand Customs, New Zealand Defence Force and New Zealand Police.

26. This work is being considered by the Cabinet Social and Wellbeing Committee on 11 September 2019. It seeks agreement to leverage some of our existing work, and to bolster this work with a small number of new initiatives for children and young people that could have a significant impact on social inclusion over time. This work is being coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development.

Reducing racism and hate speech

27. There is a connection between hostile communication against certain groups and actual violence carried out against those groups. The Ministry of Justice is working with the Human Rights Commission to consider how we might stop the spread of hate speech, including whether our existing laws adequately protect the right to equality, freedom from discrimination, and the rights of minorities. This work will look at non-regulatory options that could help reduce levels of intolerance around racism and discrimination. This will build on existing priorities including the Child Wellbeing Strategy, which has as one of its six priorities that children are free from racism, discrimination and stigma.

Keeping at risk communities and places where people gather safe

28. Security agencies will work alongside public and private sector entities who have a responsibility to protect the lives of people working in, using, and visiting crowded places⁴, by making these places more resilient. This will be delivered through a Crowded Places Strategy, so there are clear guidelines and tools for those who have responsibilities for sites where people gather.

29. 9(2)(f)(iv)
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Countering violent extremism online

30. The Christchurch terrorist's livestreaming of the attack, and subsequent sharing of the video footage on social media, deeply affected many New Zealanders and disturbed people around the world. Given the problem of online violent extremism is a global issue, New Zealand has led international efforts to work with social media companies to address the problem of violent extremism on their platforms through the Christchurch Call to Action. The attack also exposed gaps in our domestic regulatory system for countering violent extremism online. This work seeks to strengthen New Zealand's ability to identify, investigate, prosecute and remove violent extremist material online.

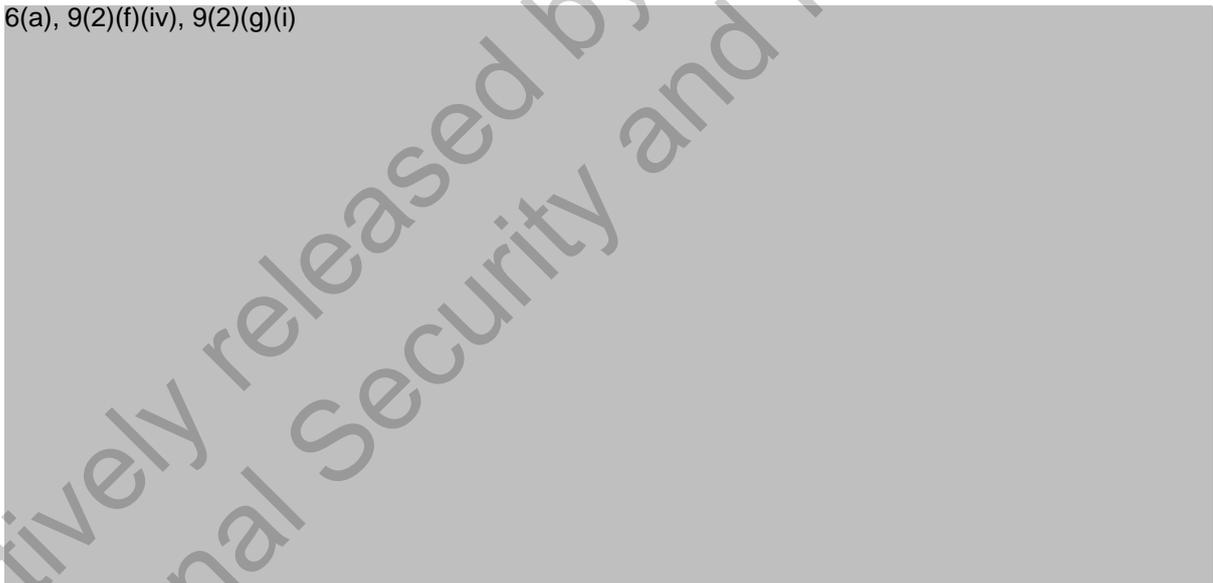
⁴ Crowded places are locations which are easily accessible by large numbers of people on a predictable basis. Crowded places include, but are not limited to, sporting arenas, transport hubs, vehicles and infrastructure, shopping centres, pubs, clubs and hotels, places of worship, tourist attractions, movie theatres, and civic spaces.

Ensuring that our capabilities are fit for purpose, and resources allocated appropriately in support of our aim

31. Response and recovery capabilities across New Zealand must be fit for purpose. The national security system provides a practised mechanism for bringing agencies together to respond to threats and hazards. Within this system, the specific capabilities for both preventing and responding to terrorism incidents, which can range from basic opportunistic attacks to more complex, multi-faceted incidents using sophisticated weapons, need to be appropriate for New Zealand. It relies upon agencies being able to access and share the right information, and being able to work collaboratively together. The work programme will review these capabilities and provide Government with that assurance.

Counter-Terrorism Legislation

32. Our existing counter-terrorism legislative settings were primarily developed as a response to international experience, particularly Islamist extremist terror events which took place during early to mid-2000s (such as 9/11 in New York and Washington, and the underground bombings in London in July 2005), and to give effect to New Zealand's international legal obligations (including under international terrorism conventions and United Nations' Security Council Resolutions).

33. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)
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- 34.

35. As part of scoping this work, the Ministry of Justice:

- 35.1. 6(a), 9(2)(h)
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- 35.2. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)
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- 35.3. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)
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6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)



36. The Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee considered advice on targeted control orders in July [ERS-19-MIN-0019 refers] and a bill is currently being drafted. A control order will allow active supervision and management of individuals returning to New Zealand who have engaged in terrorism-related activity overseas (including foreign terrorist fighters) and who continue to pose a risk to public safety. A court-imposed civil order will provide another option to manage the potential risk of terrorist activity where prosecution is not possible. The court will tailor the conditions, restrictions and obligations of an order to address the risks posed by the returnee as well as helping support their reintegration and de-radicalisation.

37. Cabinet will consider further work later this year on:

37.1. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)



37.2. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)



37.3. 6(a), 9(2)(f)(iv)



Communications supporting an engaged, aware and well-informed society

38. Mitigating the risks to New Zealanders of terrorism and violent extremism will require a comprehensive programme across the system – supported by coordinated communications. Such communications should provide information to enhance public confidence and safety, without causing undue anxiety or alarm. Messaging should increase confidence in the systems in place for mitigating and

managing terrorist threats or incidents, as well as helping people to be aware of potential harms.

39. 9(2)(g)(i)

40. 9(2)(g)(i)

Preparing for our response to the Royal Commission

41. The Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques is due to report back on 10 December 2019. That report, alongside what agencies have learnt since 15 March, should provide the Government with a comprehensive set of possible responses to the tragic events of 15 March.
42. The recommendations of the Royal Commission will, however, need to be carefully considered and formally responded to.
43. To oversee this process, Cabinet might wish to appoint the Minister for National Security and Intelligence, Minister of Police, Minister Responsible for the NZSIS and the GCSB, Minister of Customs, Minister of Immigration, Minister for Internal Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Communities as the lead Ministers to consider the report and engage with officials to address the recommendations and provide advice to Cabinet.
44. The Security and Intelligence Board of ODESC would itself appoint a lead official and working group in support of lead Ministers, and the counter-terrorism work programme will be reviewed in response to any recommendations from the Royal Commission.

Ensuring any financial implications arising as a result of this work are considered as a system and prioritised to protect New Zealanders

45. The new threat environment has possible financial implications for those responsible for keeping people safe and free from harm. Agencies have been assessing what additional measures are required in light of the current threat environment, and reprioritising where appropriate.
46. Even with this reprioritisation, however, there may be areas where additional resourcing is required.
47. The Security and Intelligence Board is considering system-wide implications resulting from 15 March in the context of Budget 2020, and the Government's response to the findings of the Royal Commission might also require funding decisions. It is early days, and relevant agencies will need to maintain tight fiscal

disciplines, ensuring that any budget bids are rigorously prioritised across the system, recognising interdependencies and avoiding duplication.

48. To assist officials in this, and to avoid the risk of scope creep, the Minister of Finance might wish to appoint the Minister for National Security and Intelligence, Minister of Police, Minister Responsible for the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service and the Government Communications Security Bureau, Minister of Customs, Minister of Immigration, Minister for Internal Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Communities to oversee a process to ensure that financial implications for Budget 2020 are considered in a holistic fashion.

Consultation

49. The following agencies were consulted in preparing this paper: The New Zealand Police, Ministry of Justice, New Zealand Security Intelligence Service, Government Communications Security Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Defence Force, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Transport, Department of Corrections, New Zealand Customs Service, Ministry of Building, Innovation and Employment, and Department of Internal Affairs. Treasury was informed.

Financial Implications

50. There are no direct financial implications from this paper. Paragraphs 45 to 48 do however outline a process to prioritise related bids and initiatives for Budget 2020. Any work streams under the work programme with financial implications not captured by the Budget 2020 process will be considered separately by Ministers, if required.

Legislative Implications

51. While there are no direct legislative implications from this paper, the legislative programme within the work programme will result in legislation being reviewed. This will be on a case-by-case basis through the appropriate Cabinet committee.

Human Rights, Gender Implications and Disability Perspectives

52. Any proposals within the work programme with implications in respect to human rights, gender or disability will be considered case-by-case basis in accordance with paragraph 5.12 of the Cabinet Manual.

Publicity

53. This paper proposes a new communications strategy for counter-terrorism. There will be ongoing public and media interest in the counter-terrorism work programme, which the proposals outlined in this paper should enable government to manage effectively.

Proactive Release

54. The paper and supporting appendixes will be released following Cabinet consideration of the work programme and communications plan. The release will be subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendations

52. The Minister for National Security and Intelligence recommends that the Committee:

Delivering a Counter-Terrorism Strategy fit for New Zealand

1. **Agree** to the Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and its aim – ‘bringing together our nation to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds.’

A work programme to deliver our Counter-Terrorism Strategy

2. **Note** the Counter-Terrorism Strategy is delivered through a work programme that:
 - 2.1. Continues to bring New Zealand together, sustaining our efforts in line with our initial response to 15 March.
 - 2.2. Focuses on working together to prevent terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds in New Zealand, while ensuring we have the systems and capabilities in place to act early and respond when needed.
3. **Note** that the work programme is overseen by the Security and Intelligence Board of ODESC, is regularly reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose, and includes work on the following as priorities:
 - 3.1. social inclusion, which underpins all of the work streams;
 - 3.2. reducing racism and hate speech;
 - 3.3. keeping communities and crowded places safe;
 - 3.4. countering violent extremism online;
 - 3.5. reviewing and strengthening counter-terrorism legislation; and
 - 3.6. improving how agencies access and share information.
4. **Note** that within this work programme, those initiatives that meet the criteria for Cabinet consideration, as laid out in paragraph 5.12 of the Cabinet Manual, will be submitted separately for consideration by Ministers.
5. **Endorse** the communications plan that provides the public with the necessary information so that they know what to do in the event of a violent extremist or terrorist attack of any kind.

Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques

6. **Note** that the Royal Commission will report back on 10 December 2019, and that the Security and Intelligence Board will implement a process to ensure a coordinated and timely response to their findings.
7. **Agree** that the Minister for National Security and Intelligence, Minister of Police, Minister Responsible for the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service and the Government Communications Security Bureau, Minister of Customs, Minister of Immigration, Minister for Internal Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Communities be the lead ministers to engage with the Royal Commission and with officials to progress the findings of the Royal Commission for Cabinet consideration.
8. **Note** that the Security and Intelligence Board will establish a lead official and supporting working group to implement possible actions from the recommendations, taking into account the existing counter-terrorism work programme.

Establishing a process for Budget 2020

9. **Note** that agencies are reviewing their priorities and resourcing as a result of 15 March, and despite reprioritisation there may be implications for Budget 2020.
10. **Agree** that the Minister for National Security and Intelligence, Minister of Police, Minister Responsible for the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service and the Government Communications Security Bureau, Minister of Customs, Minister of Immigration, Minister for Internal Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Communities to prioritise Budget 2020 bids related to 15 March for submission to the Budget 2020 process, to ensure these are considered holistically and prioritised accordingly.
11. **Note** that this process will also allow for the findings of the Royal Commission to be considered as part of this prioritisation.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

Minister for National Security and Intelligence



ODESC

Officials' Committee for Domestic and External Security Coordination

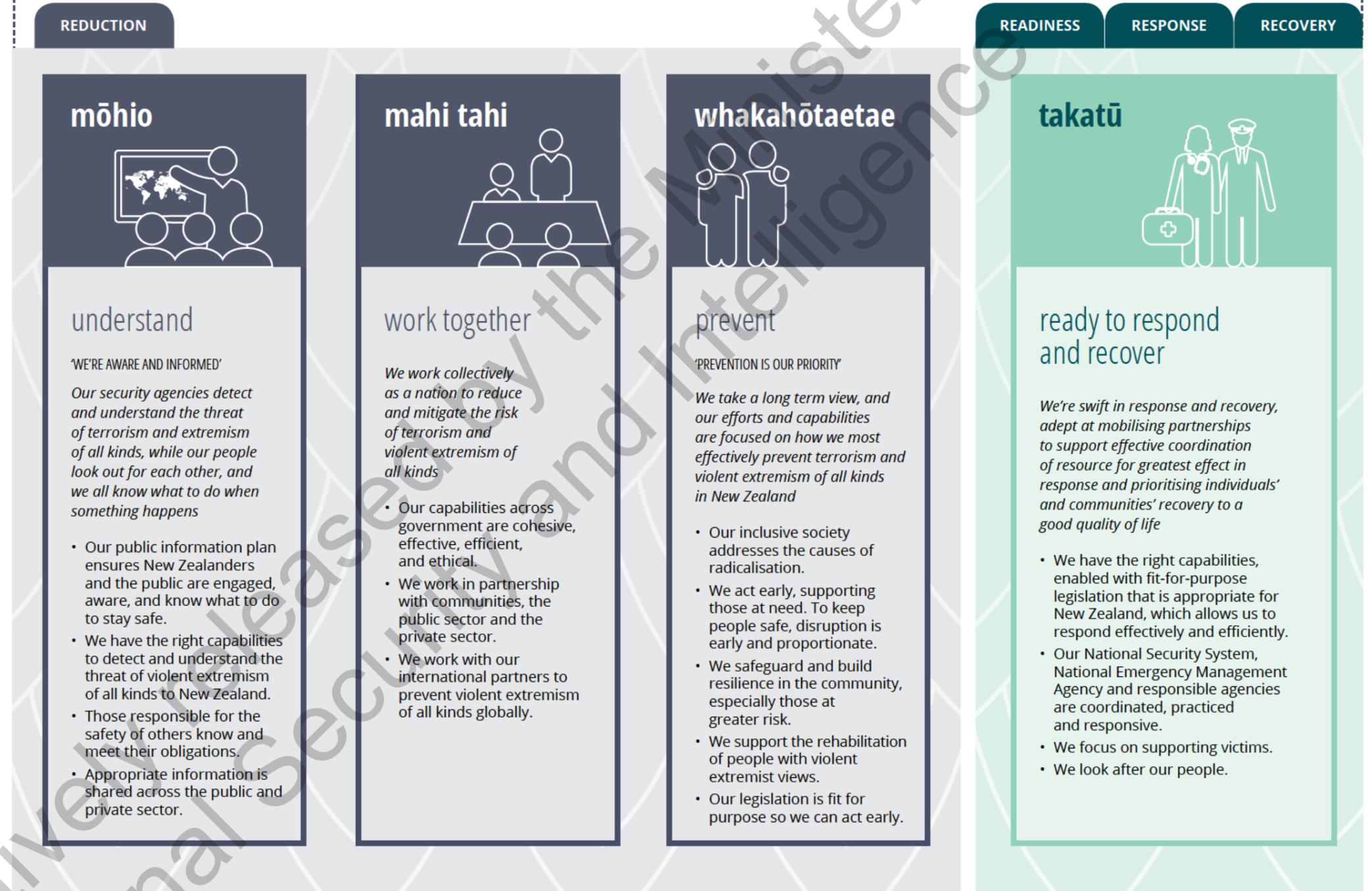
Counter-terrorism Coordination Committee
ctcc@dpmc.govt.nz

Countering terrorism & violent extremism national strategy overview

Standing together as a nation and championing our values in the face of terrorism and violent extremism

AIM Bringing our nation together to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds

OUR FRAMEWORK FOCUSED ON REDUCTION



Our network
New Zealanders

our communities
iwi and hapu

private sector

local government

public sector

security sector

media

international

As a government, we commit to achieving our aim by ...

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

with communities, focused on reducing and mitigating the risks of terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds to New Zealand and our citizens, residents and visitors.

ENSURING THAT AS A NATION WE CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER,

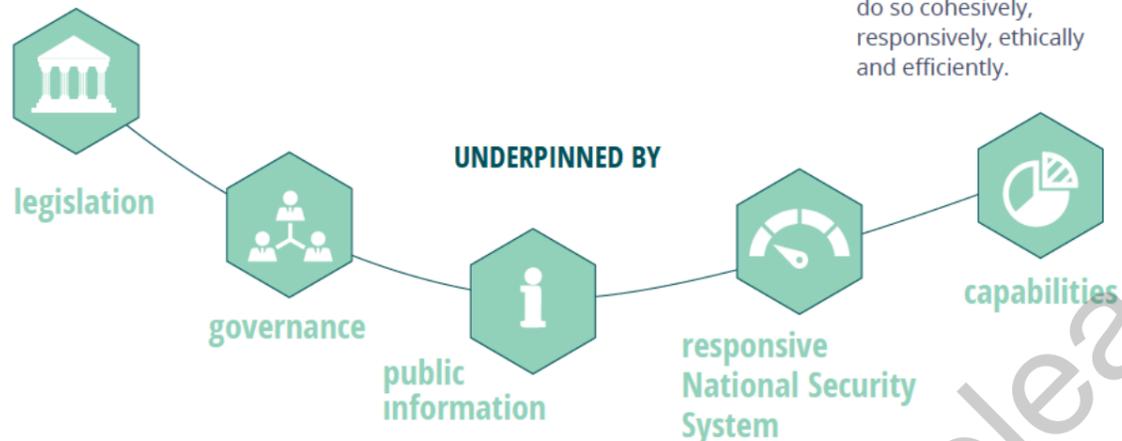
fostering culture, so that if we see something that concerns us, we say something, and know what to do to keep ourselves safe.

SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

to counter terrorism and violent extremism at the global, regional and bilateral levels.

FOCUSING ON PREVENTION,

while having the right capabilities across government, coordinated by an agile and effective national security system, enabled by fit for purpose legislation, so that when we need to act, we can do so cohesively, responsively, ethically and efficiently.

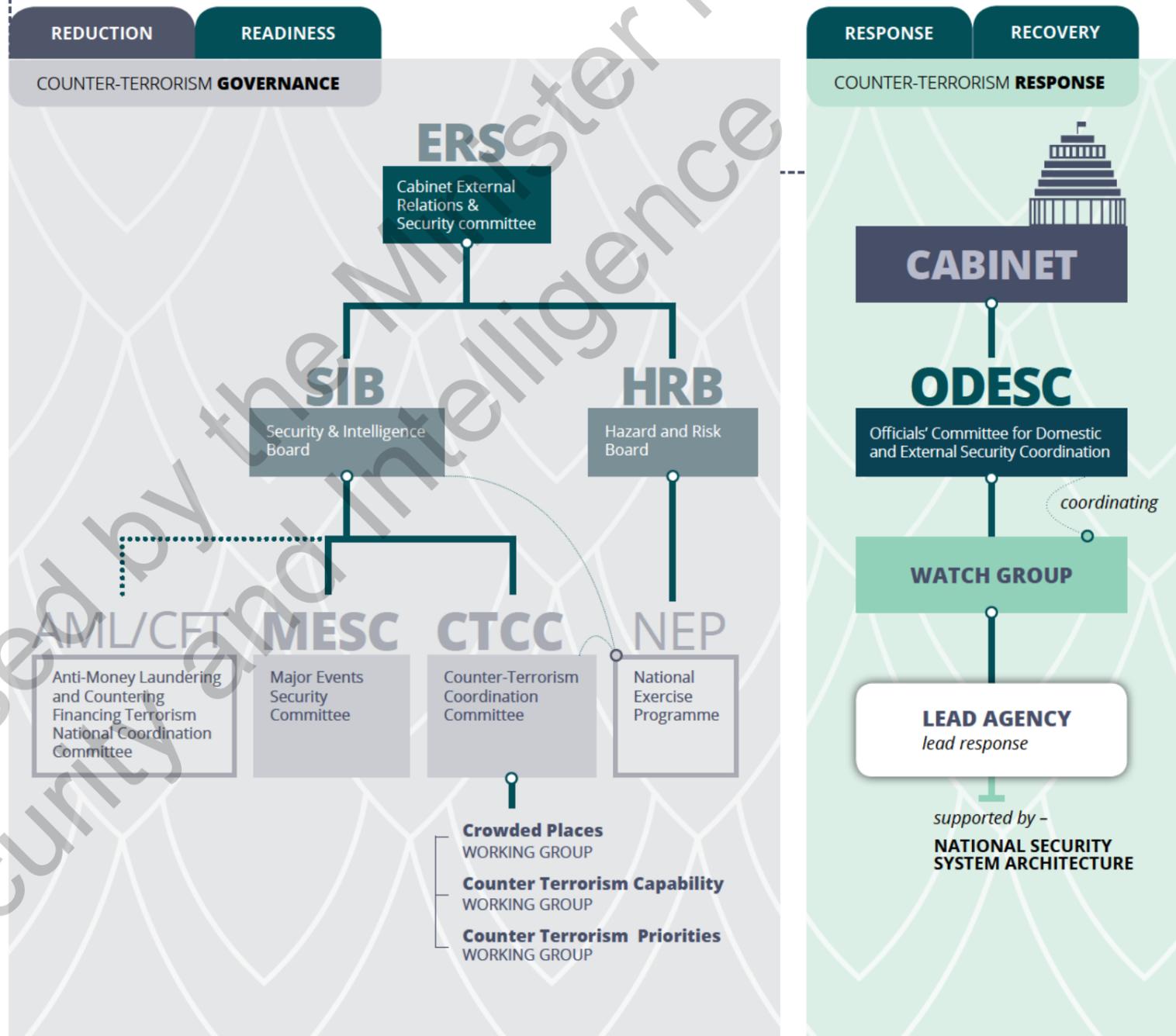


Our plans

- The National Security System Handbook.
- The Counter-Terrorism Handbook.

- Crowded Places Strategy (draft).
- National Disaster Resilience Strategy.
- South East Asia Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- Transnational Organised Crime Strategy.
- National Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Strategy.
- Christchurch call to action to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online.

OUR COUNTER TERRORISM GOVERNANCE AND RESPONSE SYSTEM



Connecting and coordinating NZ's counter-terrorism system



Detecting, investigating and understanding terrorism threats



Ensuring counter-terrorism legislation is fit for purpose and reflects our values



Providing specialist tactical and operational capability to counter and respond to terrorist threats



Ensuring that NZ's defence activities reduce the terrorism threat to New Zealand's interests, and that the Defence Force is well prepared to support Government's response to terrorism events in NZ and offshore



Aligning counter-terrorism priorities, foreign policy interests and international obligations to champion our values globally and help keep NZers safe offshore



Providing terrorism threat assessment



Community engagement, prevention, intelligence gathering and analysis, investigation, emergency response, working with domestic and offshore partners, operational lead for reducing risk and



Providing specialist intelligence support to NZSIS and NZ Police terrorism investigations



Enhancing NZ security through risk identification and mitigation across borders



Supporting delivery of a resilient and secure transport system



Supporting delivery of a resilient and secure transport system

Our response Counter-terrorism handbook



ODESC
Officials' Committee for Domestic
and External Security Coordination

Counter-Terrorism Coordination Committee
ctcc@dpmc.govt.nz

Response to • Short 1-off isolated attacks • Hostage-taking or siege incidents • Simultaneous attacks or a complex cascading attack

What happens immediately?



EMERGENCY SERVICES RESPOND TO THE INCIDENT to preserve life, neutralise the threat from attackers and cordon-off the scene.



PUBLIC STATEMENT made by Police or ministers.



NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM 'ACTIVATED'

- ODESC
- Police National Crisis Coordination Centre
- National Crisis Management Centre (MCDEM).

Prime Minister and ministers informed by CE DPMC/Chair of ODESC

WHAT DECISIONS WILL THE PRIME MINISTER (PM) MAKE?



Which ministers need to meet?
Should the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) be deployed with Police powers?

Using the NZ Defence Force

- What support do the Police need and where?
- What will be the impact of deploying the military to the security situation, on public confidence and community cohesion?
- What's the plan for reducing the military deployment?
- How will we explain to the public what we are doing?
- Do deploying military need Police power?

Approval to use NZDF with the same powers and immunity as the Police requires PM approval (or the next most senior minister) under Defence Act 1990 S9(4)

What will be covered in the 1st ODESC meeting?

INFORMATION YOU'LL GET

Situational

- What's the scale of the incident.
- Is the incident ongoing or declared over.
- What's the number and status of attackers.
- How many casualties and hostages are there.
- What's the local community reaction and atmosphere.

Operational

- What are the Police doing.
- What's happening on the ground.
- Are the NZ Defence Force (NZDF) required.
- Do the Police need any other support.

Intelligence

- Is the attack connected to any subjects-of-interest or known plots. What's their motivation.
- Has any group claimed responsibility.
- Are there international links.
- Is this a 1-off event or is there risk of further attacks.
- Should the *National Terrorism Threat Level* be raised.

WHAT TO CONSIDER & WHAT DECISIONS TO MAKE

Public information

- When will the Police make further public statements and decide key messages.
- How will we handle outreach to families of those affected.
- Strategic communications.
- Is there message alignment between central and local government.
- What are the local community reactions. Is engagement is required.
- How will we manage and respond to international media interest.

DECISIONS TO MAKE

- When will the PM or Minister of Police make a public statement.
- When will the PM or Minister of Police visit the area.
- Will the PM or an appropriate minister visit affected communities/families.
- Will other ministers make public statements.
- When will the leader of the opposition be briefed.

PROTECTIVE SECURITY RESPONSE

- What protective security measures have been put in place to reduce the risk to the public and state sector.

Consequence management

- What are the consequences of the incident, such as transport disruption and areas evacuated.
- Who's leading consequence management. Which council and government agencies are supporting.
- Are operational and consequence management responses coordinated.

International issues

- What are the international reactions and impacts.
- What 'advice' do we give foreign missions in NZ. Are any foreign nationals affected.
- What advice has been given to NZ posts overseas.
- How do we respond to calls from foreign counterparts and offers of assistance.

DECISIONS TO MAKE

- Should proactive calls be made to any foreign leaders.
- Should we commission an economic-impact analysis.

Constitutional issues

Decisions to make

- If it's in recess, should we recall Parliament.
- Should we brief the leader of the opposition on the *intelligence*.
- Should the affected-community mayor be briefed and by whom.
- How will we keep the Governor General informed.

Our response objectives



Minimised loss of life through rapid response.



Recovered and treated any casualties. Informed and supported families.



Contained the crime scene and started the Police investigation.



Identified, located and detained the people responsible.



Clarity that the incident is over and no follow-up attacks are anticipated.



Started reassuring the public, including using Police and political outreach to support inter-community relations.

Proactively released by the Minister for
National Security and Intelligence

Proactively released by the Minister for
National Security and Intelligence

Proactively released by the Minister for
National Security and Intelligence



Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Looking Forward: Strengthening New Zealand Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism

Portfolio **National Security and Intelligence**

On 10 September 2019, the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee:

Delivering a Counter-Terrorism Strategy fit for New Zealand

- 1 **agreed** to the Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and its aim – ‘bringing together our nation to protect all New Zealanders from terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds’, as outlined in the paper under ERS-19-SUB-0026;

A work programme to deliver the Counter-Terrorism Strategy

- 2 **noted** that the Counter-Terrorism Strategy will be delivered through a work programme that:
 - 2.1 continues to bring New Zealand together, sustaining efforts in line with the government’s initial response to 15 March;
 - 2.2 focuses on working together to prevent terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds in New Zealand, while ensuring the systems and capabilities are in place to act early and respond when needed;
- 3 **noted** that the work programme will be overseen by the Security and Intelligence Board of ODESC, be regularly reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose, and include work on the following as priorities:
 - 3.1 social inclusion, which underpins all of the work streams;
 - 3.2 reducing racism and hate speech;
 - 3.3 keeping communities and crowded places safe;
 - 3.4 countering violent extremism online;
 - 3.5 reviewing and strengthening counter-terrorism legislation;
 - 3.6 improving how agencies access and share information;

- 4 **noted** that within this work programme, those initiatives that meet the criteria for Cabinet consideration, as laid out in paragraph 5.12 of the Cabinet Manual, will be submitted separately for consideration by Ministers;
- 5 **endorsed** the communications plan, attached to the paper under ERS-19-SUB-0026, which will provide the public with the necessary information so that they know what to do in the event of a violent extremist or terrorist attack of any kind;

Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques

- 6 **noted** that the Royal Commission is due to report back on 10 December 2019, and that the Security and Intelligence Board will implement a process to ensure a coordinated and timely response to the Commission's findings;
- 7 **agreed** that the Minister for National Security and Intelligence, Minister of Police, Minister Responsible for the NZSIS and the GCSB, Minister of Customs, Minister of Immigration, Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister for Ethnic Communities be the lead Ministers to engage with the Royal Commission and with officials to progress the findings of the Royal Commission for Cabinet consideration;
- 8 **noted** that the Security and Intelligence Board will establish a lead official and supporting working group to implement possible actions from the recommendations, taking into account the existing counter-terrorism work programme;

Establishing a process for Budget 2020

- 9 **noted** that agencies are reviewing their priorities and resourcing as a result of 15 March, and that despite reprioritisation there may be implications for Budget 2020;
- 10 **agreed** that the group of Ministers referred to in paragraph 7 above prioritise Budget 2020 bids related to 15 March for consideration as part of the Budget 2020 process, to ensure these bids are considered holistically and prioritised accordingly;
- 11 **noted** that this process will also allow for the findings of the Royal Commission to be considered as part of this prioritisation.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Andrew Little
Hon David Parker
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Ron Mark

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Defence

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Minister for National Security and Intelligence



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report of the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee: Period Ended 13 September 2019

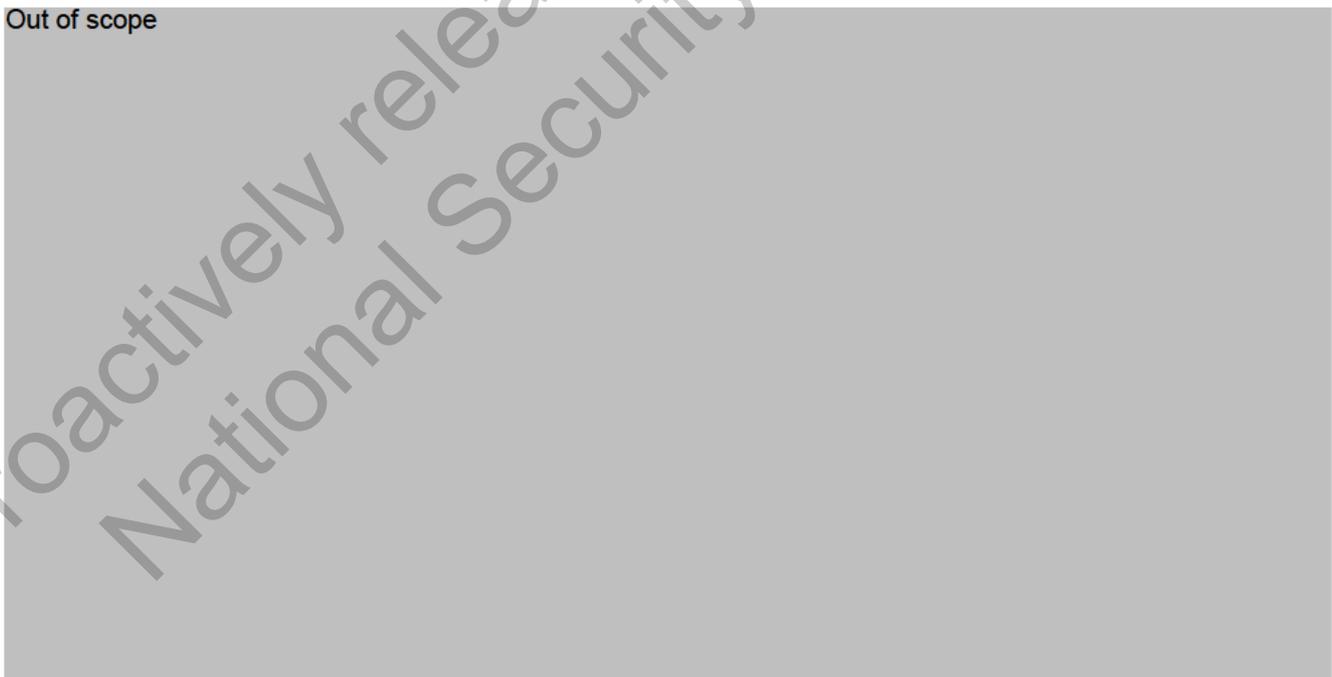
On 16 September 2019, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee for the period ended 13 September 2019:

Out of scope



ERS-19-MIN-0026 **Looking Forward: Strengthening New Zealand Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism** CONFIRMED
Portfolio: National Security and Intelligence

Out of scope



Out of scope



Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

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