Cabinet Office



Circular

1 December 2020

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

- 1 The Prime Minister has agreed to the updated terms of reference and membership of Cabinet committees. The Cabinet committees are:
 - 1.1 the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH);
 - 1.2 the Cabinet Business Committee (CBC);
 - 1.3 the Cabinet Priorities Committee (CPC);
 - 1.4 the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV);
 - 1.5 the Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee (ENV);
 - 1.6 the Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee (ERS);
 - 1.7 the Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee (GOV);
 - 1.8 the Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG);
 - 1.9 the Cabinet Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Committee (MCR); and
 - 1.10 the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC).
- 2 The updated Cabinet committee terms of reference and membership are attached.

Michael Webster for Secretary of the Cabinet

Enquiries:

Martin Bell Deputy Secretary of the Cabinet Ph: (04) 830 5031 martin.bell@dpmc.govt.nz Jenny Vickers Senior Advisor Ph: (04) 830 5018 jenny.vickers@dpmc.govt.nz

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

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair) Hon Grant Robertson (Deputy Chair) Hon Kelvin Davis Hon Chris Hipkins Hon Carmel Sepuloni Hon Andrew Little Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Poto Williams Hon Kris Faafoi Hon Willie Jackson Hon Jan Tinetti Hon Aupito William Sio Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Cabinet Business Committee (CBC)

To consider policy issues, appointments, bills, and regulations, and other matters that require decisions before the next scheduled relevant 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

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair) Hon Grant Robertson (Deputy Chair) Hon Kelvin Davis Hon Dr Megan Woods Hon Chris Hipkins Hon Carmel Sepuloni Hon Andrew Little Hon David Parker Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Poto Williams Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Stuart Nash

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets during non-sitting weeks if required

Cabinet Priorities Committee (CPC)

- Consider overall government priorities and major strategic issues.
- Consider significant issues as determined by the Prime Minister or Cabinet. Implementation
 aspects of these issues will be considered by the appropriate committee, once major policy
 directions have been set.
- Responsible for the overall coordination of the delivery of the government's priorities.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair) Hon Grant Robertson (Deputy Chair) Hon Kelvin Davis Hon Dr Megan Woods Hon Chris Hipkins Hon Carmel Sepuloni Hon Andrew Little Hon David Parker Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Poto Williams Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Stuart Nash

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Frequency

Meets monthly, or as required

Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV)

To consider strategy and policy relating to New Zealand's economic recovery from COVID-19 and building an inclusive, sustainable economy.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern **Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)** *Hon Dr Megan Woods (Deputy Chair)* Hon Chris Hipkins Hon Carmel Sepuloni Hon David Parker Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Poto Williams Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Stuart Nash Hon Kris Faafoi Hon Willie Jackson Hon Michael Wood Hon Dr David Clark Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall Hon Meka Whaitiri Hon Phil Twyford Rino Tirikatene, MP Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Relevant Portfolios¹

ACC Agriculture **Biosecurity** Broadcasting and Media **Building and Construction Commerce and Consumer Affairs** Customs COVID-19 Response **Digital Economy and Communications** Education Economic and Regional Development **Emergency Management Energy and Resources** Environment Finance Food Safety Forestry Housing Immigration

Infrastructure Land Information Local Government Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Māori Development **Oceans and Fisheries Pike River Re-entry** Racing Research, Science and Innovation Revenue **Rural Communities Small Business Statistics** State Owned Enterprises Tourism Trade and Export Growth Transport Workplace Relations and Safety

Timing

¹ This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.

Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee (ENV)

To consider strategic and policy matters relating to the environment, climate change, sustainable energy use, natural resources, and resource management.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern Hon Grant Robertson Hon Kelvin Davis *Hon Dr Megan Woods (Deputy Chair)* Hon David Parker (Chair) Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Stuart Nash Hon Willie Jackson Hon Willie Jackson Hon Michael Wood Hon Kiri Allan Hon Phil Twyford Rino Tirikatene, MP

Relevant Portfolios²

- Agriculture Biosecurity Climate Change Conservation Economic and Regional Development Emergency Management Energy and Resources Environment Forestry
- Local Government Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Māori Development Oceans and Fisheries Research, Science and Innovation Rural Communities Transport Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Timing

Meets fortnightly during sitting weeks

² This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.

Cabinet External Relations and Security Committee (ERS)

- Oversight of the national security and intelligence sector, and to consider strategic, policy, and legislative matters relating to the sector, foreign affairs, defence (excluding Defence procurement), and significant hazards.
- Coordinate and direct national responses to major crises or circumstances affecting national security (either domestic or international).

ERS, or a subcommittee of ERS as determined by the Prime Minister, will have Power to Act where the need for urgent action and/or operational or security considerations require it.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair) Hon Grant Robertson Hon Kelvin Davis Hon Andrew Little Hon David Parker *Hon Nanaia Mahuta (Deputy Chair)* Hon Poto Williams Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Kris Faafoi Hon Peeni Henare Hon Kiri Allan Hon Dr David Clark

With the addition of the relevant portfolio Minister as appropriate.

Relevant Portfolios³

Biosecurity COVID-19 Response Customs Digital Economy and Communications Disarmament and Arms Control Emergency Management Defence Foreign Affairs GCSB Health Immigration National Security and Intelligence NZSIS Police

Timing

Meets monthly, or as required

³ This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.

Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee (GOV)

- Consider strategic and policy matters relating to the public sector and government expenditure, including significant sector infrastructure and investment proposals (e.g. defence, schools, hospitals).
- Consider matters relating to local government and emergency management.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern **Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)** Hon Dr Megan Woods *Hon Chris Hipkins (Deputy Chair)* Hon David Parker Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Stuart Nash Hon Peeni Henare Hon Jan Tinetti Hon Michael Wood Hon Kiri Allan Hon Dr David Clark Hon Meka Whaitiri Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Relevant Portfolios⁴

Corrections Emergency Management Defence Digital Economy and Communications Education Emergency Management Finance Health Infrastructure Internal Affairs Local Government Revenue State Owned Enterprises Public Service Statistics Transport

Frequency

Meets fortnightly during sitting weeks

⁴ This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.

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

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern Hon Grant Robertson **Hon Chris Hipkins (Chair)** Hon Andrew Little Hon David Parker Hon Poto Williams Hon Kris Faafoi *Hon Michael Wood (Deputy Chair)* Hon Kiri Allan Hon Dr David Clark Kieran McAnulty, MP (Senior Government Whip)

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Cabinet Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Committee (MCR)

To consider strategic and policy matters relating to Treaty of Waitangi settlement negotiations and the delivery of post-settlement commitments, the Crown's Treaty obligations, the revitalisation of te reo Māori, and opportunities that exist in the post-Treaty settlement environment.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern Hon Grant Robertson **Hon Kelvin Davis (Chair)** *Hon Andrew Little (Deputy Chair)* Hon David Parker Hon Nanaia Mahuta Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Stuart Nash Hon Peeni Henare Hon Willie Jackson Hon Kiri Allan Hon Meka Whaitiri

Relevant Portfolios⁵

Agriculture Attorney-General Conservation Economic and Regional Development Environment Local Government Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Māori Development Oceans and Fisheries Rural Communities Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Whānau Ora

Timing

Meets monthly, or as required

⁵ This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.

Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC)

To consider strategic and policy matters which support an equal, inclusive, and fair standard of living for all New Zealanders, including education, health, justice, income support, homelessness, public housing and residential tenancy issues, and the health and social impacts of COVID-19.

Membership

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern Hon Grant Robertson Hon Kelvin Davis Hon Dr Megan Woods *Hon Chris Hipkins (Deputy Chair)* Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair) Hon Andrew Little Hon Poto Williams Hon Damien O'Connor Hon Kris Faafoi Hon Peeni Henare Hon Willie Jackson Hon Jan Tinetti Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall Hon Aupito William Sio Hon Meka Whaitiri Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan

Relevant Portfolios⁶

ACC Arts, Culture and Heritage Child Poverty Reduction Children Community and Voluntary Sector Corrections Courts COVID-19 Response Disability Issues Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities Education Health Housing Justice Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Māori Development Pacific Peoples Police Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence Rural Communities Seniors Social Development and Employment Sport and Recreation Veterans Whānau Ora Women Youth

Frequency

⁶ This is an indicative list of portfolios relevant to the committee's consideration. Portfolios may be listed under more than one committee. Papers should be submitted to the most relevant committee for the subject matter.