

## **Royal Commission Advisory Group**

### **Information Sheet**

#### **Background**

The Government publicly released the Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 8 December 2020. The Royal Commission's report made 44 recommendations to Government. The Government accepted all findings of the report and agreed in-principle to all 44 recommendations. The Government also adopted a set of principles to guide its response, which sets out a vision for a diverse, inclusive, and safe New Zealand.

Recommendation 44 of the report was that Government establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (the Group) that:

- a) includes representatives of communities, civil society, local government, the private sector, affected whānau, survivors and witnesses and the Royal Commission's Muslim Community Reference Group;
- b) provides advice to the responsible ministers on the design of the government's implementation plan and its roll-out; and
- c) publishes its advice to enhance transparency.

#### **Establishment of the Group**

Ministers conducted a series of hui in January and February 2021 to seek community views on the establishment of the Group. Communities were supportive of the Group and wanted it to be established as early as possible to be involved in shaping the Government's response.

On 12 June Minister Little announced the establishment of the Ministerial Advisory Group on the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch mosques. See the press release [here](#).

#### **Further group membership is sought from Pacific, rainbow, disability and rural communities**

To ensure representation from all New Zealand's diverse communities, candidates are sought to join the group from Pacific, rainbow, disability and rural communities.

## **Scope of the Group**

The Group is a Ministerial Advisory Group. This means it provides independent advice to Minister Andrew Little as the Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on Christchurch Mosques. The Group's work will include advice on work programme priorities.

Government remains accountable for its response to the Royal Commission's report.

The Group's advice to the Lead Coordination Minister will be published online to enhance transparency, as recommended by the Royal Commission.

## **Ongoing community engagement to continue**

The Group is one way communities can influence the Government's response to the Royal Commission. Ongoing broader community engagement will continue as part of the Government's overall response to the Royal Commission's report.

## **Nominations**

Nominations are sought from Pacific, rainbow, disability and rural communities.

You may apply for Group membership yourself or nominate someone else. If you are nominating someone else, it is recommended that you first seek that person's permission to do so.

You can submit a [nomination online](#) or nomination forms can be requested in hard copy by emailing [RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz).

Successful nominees will have demonstrated strengths in one or more areas including experience advocating for their community, strong connection to community organisations (formally or informally), diversity of lived experiences and a commitment to a diverse, inclusive and safe New Zealand.

In order to assist with assessing the suitability of nominees to the Group, nominees may be required to complete a NZ Police vetting check, Ministry of Justice vetting check, and/or other due diligence checks.

## **Timelines for nominations**

All nominations must be submitted by 5:00pm on Monday 26 July 2021. Nominations can be made [online](#) or forms can be emailed to [RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz) or posted to:

RCOI Advisory Group Nominations

Hon Andrew Little

Freepost Parliament

Private Bag 18 888

Parliament

Wellington 6160

### **Group Chair**

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu chief executive Arihia Bennett MNZM has been appointed chair of the Group.

### **Group member selection process**

All nominations and applications for the Group will be carefully considered. Minister Little will put selected candidates forward for consideration by the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee before they are confirmed. Candidates will be informed of their nomination's status through the stages of this process.

### **Support to the Group**

The Group is supported by a Secretariat, accountable to Minister Little. The Secretariat will ensure Group members have the resources and information they need to be effective in their role.

### **Commitment required**

Group members may need to devote up to approximately 16 hours per month to Group activities, which will include confidential review of material on the Government's intended response work programme and attendance at approximately 6 Group meetings per year. The majority of meetings will be held virtually, with opportunity for one to two in-person meetings over a year. Any travel, accommodation and other costs involved in attending face to face meetings are paid for by the Secretariat.

### **Language**

As most meetings will be via Zoom, meetings and materials will be in English.

## **Payment**

Group members are paid for their services in line with the Cabinet Fees Framework (further information [here](#)). Ministerial Advisory Groups are referred to under “Group 4: All Other Committees and Other Bodies” at paragraphs 120 to 126 in that information. To be eligible for such compensation, all Group members must have the right to work in New Zealand.

## **Questions**

If you have any questions, please email [RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:RCOIAdvisoryGroup@dpmc.govt.nz)