



## Proactive Release

The following documents have been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Grant Robertson:

### **Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments**

The following documents have been included in this release:

**Title of paper:** Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments  
(CAB-21-SUB-0519 refers)

- Implementation Unit Work programme update
- Progress Update on Actions from the Mid-Term Review of the Budget 2019 Mental Health and Addiction Package
- New Zealand Upgrade Programme Transport Assessment
- Report: Emergency and Transitional Housing
- Jobs for Nature Stocktake of Progress
- Infrastructure Reference Group Programme Status Update

**Title of minute:** Progress report on Implementation Unit Assignments (CPC-21-MIN-0034 refers)

**Title of minute:** Report of the Cabinet Priorities Committee: Period Ended 10 December 2021  
(CAB-21-MIN-0519 refers)

**Title of paper:** Stocktake of Progress Report – Carbon Neutral Government Programme  
(CAB-22-SUB-0006 refers)

- Carbon Neutral Government Programme Stocktake of Progress

**Title of minute:** Stocktake of Progress Report – Carbon Neutral Government Programme  
(CBC-22-MIN-0006 refers)

**Title of minute:** Report of the Cabinet Business Committee: Period Ended 25 February 2022  
(CAB-22-MIN-0045 refers)

Some parts of this information release 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, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.



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## **FAQs to Support the Release of the Stocktake of Progress Report on the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP)**

### **What is the Carbon Neutral Government Programme?**

The Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) was established in November 2020 and aims to help state sector organisations accelerate emissions reductions and become carbon neutral from 2025.

The Programme covers 120 state sector organisations and is facilitated by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA).

The CNGP requires organisations to measure, report, and verify emissions, set reductions targets and publish emissions reduction plans, and eventually offset residual emissions.

### **What was the Implementation Unit asked to do?**

The Implementation Unit was asked to undertake a stocktake to identify the status of delivery across government agencies, identify priority projects where additional support or visibility may be useful, and ensure the right governance is in place to provide any required support towards ensuring the programme delivers its anticipated impacts and outcomes.

### **What were the Implementation Unit's findings?**

The Programme is at an early stage and has recently entered its second year. The Implementation Unit found that good progress was made in the first year to establish programme management arrangements within MfE and MBIE and that working relationships across the Programme are strong.

MfE and MBIE have developed a range of Programme-wide policy and guidance and most organisations are positive about the support and guidance they receive from MfE and MBIE on how to meet the Programme's requirements.

The first deadline for the first tranche of organisations to report emissions is December 2022, and all organisations still have time to meet their reporting requirements.

Many organisations have made good progress towards meeting the Programme's requirements. It would assist further if MfE and MBIE could undertake targeted engagement to ensure that all CNGP organisations understand how they can meet Programme requirements.

Some areas of policy, particularly related to offsetting, are still being developed. In the meantime, organisations would benefit from more guidance on how to plan and budget for potential offsetting liabilities.

MfE and MBIE have agreed that as the programme matures, their focus should evolve to provide more support for delivery and to validate organisations' progress towards achieving their emissions reductions plans.

### **What, if any, follow up work will the Implementation Unit do?**

The Unit will support MfE, MBIE and EECA as a 'critical friend' as they consider changes to governance and programme management arrangements and assist to strengthen Programme level reporting. The Unit will also support Treasury, MBIE and EECA to ensure that allocated and approved funding is spent in a timely and effective manner.

**What is the State Sector Decarbonisation Fund (SSDF)?**

The SSDF, managed by MBIE and EECA, provides co-funding for organisations to undertake low emissions heating, vehicles, lighting and other projects. \$219.5 million of capital funding has been allocated to the SSDF.

**What were the key findings related to the SSDF?**

EECA administers the SSDF effectively and the projects funded through the SSDF are broadly on track to achieve their intended benefits. Organisations report positive experiences with EECA's support. There may be opportunities to streamline how approval decisions are made, and the Treasury, MBIE and EECA should provide Ministers with options to consider.