



Kāpuia Pānui 2022/16

18 November 2022

Tēnā koutou and welcome to the 16th edition of Kāpuia Pānui for 2022.

Agency updates on the RCOI Response Work Programme

1. Stronger regulations announced to fight money laundering and financial terrorism

On 7 November, the Minister of Justice announced changes to regulations under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Act. The Act is designed to disrupt serious and organised crime, as well as terrorism, by imposing obligations on businesses that provide specific financial and non-financial services to assess their money laundering and terrorism financing risks, identify and know their customers, report suspicious activities and transactions, and maintain various records. The changes follow a review of the Act, including looking at concerns it wasn't working well for businesses, agencies and consumers. The Review also responds to recommendation 18 in the Royal Commission of Inquiry report to review all legislation related to counter-terrorism.

The changes include:

- Relaxing the requirement on businesses to verify the address of most customers
- Extending the timeframe for businesses to submit Prescribed Transactions Reports
- Exempting registered charities from AML/CFT obligations when they are providing small loans.

Further changes will address areas of known risk or vulnerabilities, improving efficiencies and reducing compliance costs, and improving compliance with international money laundering standards.

You can read the review report by clicking this [link](#).

You can read the Justice Minister's press release by clicking this [link](#).

2. Proactive release of Cabinet papers relating to development of National Security Strategy and machinery of government options

On 28 October, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet proactively released Cabinet papers relating to the development of New Zealand's first National Security Strategy and strengthening the design of the machinery of government options for the national security system. The papers are available by clicking this [link](#).

3. Firearms Prohibition Orders come into effect

On 16 November, Firearms Prohibition Orders which are designed to help reduce gun harm and make communities safer came into effect. Firearms Prohibition Orders close a gap in the Arms Act 1983 that might have enabled a high-risk person to legally access firearms. The orders can be made by a judge at sentencing and prohibit high-risk offenders, such as those convicted of murder, serious violent offences, terrorism, participation in an organised criminal group, and firearms-related crimes from accessing or using firearms. The new legislation gives a judge the power to impose an order lasting 10 years and makes it a criminal offence to breach the conditions of the order.

Penalties for breaching the orders include:

- Up to two years imprisonment, if a person breaches a condition of the order, for example resides in a location where there are firearms or visits a prohibited location such as a gun shop.
- Up to five years imprisonment if a person is found in possession or control of a firearm.
- Up to seven years imprisonment if the firearm was a prohibited firearm, such as military style semi-automatic weapons.
- Up to five years imprisonment, or up to seven years imprisonment if the firearm was a prohibited firearm, for knowingly supplying a firearm to a person subject to a firearm prohibition order.

You can read the Police media release by clicking this [link](#).

You can read the Police Minister's media release by clicking this [link](#).

4. Changes to firearms legislation to address delays in processing applications for renewal

On 4 November, the Police Minister announced legislation to ensure that if a holder of a current firearms licence applies for a new licence before its expiry, the current licence will continue to be in force until they are notified of the outcome of their application. This responds to issues of a peak in applications every 10 years following 1992 changes to terminate lifetime licences and introduce 10-year licences, at the same time as Police are undertaking a more stringent approach to firearms licensing assessments as a result of the Royal Commission of Inquiry. These two factors have resulted in the current demand for new firearms licence applications outstripping Police's capacity to process applications and issue a new licence before the previous licence expires. There are currently approximately 9,000 applications in the pipeline and approximately 2,000 applicants are holding an expired licence while waiting to be processed. Police forecast the numbers will increase rapidly. Police say public safety has been factored into these changes and they will implement an intelligence-based triage system to ensure they are focusing their efforts in the right areas during the peak in demand.

The Minister has signalled he wants the legislation to be progressed quickly through Parliament. You can follow progress of the legislation through Parliament by clicking this [link](#).

You can read the Minister's press release by clicking this [link](#).

Other information

5. Director-General of Security and CEO of NZSIS announced as new deputy Public Services Commissioner

On 16 November, the Minister for the Public Service Chris Hipkins announced the appointment of Rebecca Kitteridge CVO as Deputy Public Service Commissioner. Ms Kitteridge has been the Director-General of Security and Chief Executive of the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) since 2014.

The Public Service Commission leads the Public Service to improve outcomes and services for New Zealanders, while protecting and enhancing standards of integrity and conduct. The Deputy Public Service Commissioner works with the Public Service Commissioner to provide leadership and oversight of the sector.

Ms Kitteridge has been appointed for five years from 1 March 2023.

You can read the Minister's full press release by clicking this [link](#).

6. Ministry for Ethnic Communities CEO interviews Rebecca Kitteridge in role at NZSIS

The CEO of the Ministry of Ethnic Communities Mervin Singham recently interviewed Rebecca Kitteridge in her current role as CEO of NZSIS. The interview discusses New Zealand's national security approach and acknowledged the events of 15 March, which has motivated the NZSIS to pay greater attention to white identity motivated violent extremism. Other topics of discussion were workforce diversity at NZSIS, challenges around updating the public on their investigations due to national security constraints, the importance of community input in preventing and countering violent extremism, staff training on unconscious bias and working with different communities, foreign interference in New Zealand, and the threshold for NZSIS investigating hate online. You can listen to the full interview by clicking this [link](#).

In the community

Upcoming dates of significance

- 19 November marks the 12th anniversary of the Pike River Mine disaster.
- 3 December is International Day of Persons with Disabilities and is designed to create participation of people with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post-COVID-19 world.
- December 10 is International Human Rights Day.
- 18 December is International Migrants Day which aims to raise awareness about the challenges and difficulties of facing migrants.
- 18th-26th December is Hanukkah (Judaism). Hanukkah is celebrated in Judaism to commemorate the rededication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem by the lighting of candles on each day of the festival.
- 25 December is Christmas Day (Christian) and celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.

Noho ora mai

The Kāpuia Secretariat