



Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister:

Quarter 2 Plan

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Quarter 2 Plan (CAB-24-SUB-0079 refers)

Title of minute: Quarter 2 Plan (CAB-24-MIN-0079 refers)

~~Sensitive~~

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

QUARTER 2 PLAN

Proposal

1. This paper agrees the Coalition Government's plan for Quarter 2 (April-June) of 2024 to focus our efforts and signal the improvements we intend to deliver for New Zealanders.

100-Day Plan and Quarter Two Plan

2. Our Coalition Government was elected on a platform of change. After years of decline under the previous Government, New Zealanders voted for a government committed to delivering the basics: a strong economy, law and order, and effective and efficient public services.
3. To deliver on that vision and advance our shared work programme, we agreed a 100-Day Plan with 49 commitments. At the end of the 100 Days on 8 March we had completed all the actions – a demonstration of the early momentum our government has achieved.
4. New Zealanders are already benefiting from these actions. Greater security at Emergency Departments is supporting the safety of patients and staff. The ban on cell phones in schools has been received positively by teachers and parents, who have highlighted improvements to student attentiveness and classroom behaviour.
5. We are also seeing progress on more complex pieces of work. We've introduced a bill making gang membership an aggravating factor at sentencing, as agreed to in the National-New Zealand First Coalition Agreement. Initial work to establish a Ministry of Regulation as outlined in the National-ACT Coalition Agreement – including the closure of the Productivity Commission – is complete.
6. Outlining a plan with specific actions, proposed dates, and regular reporting has contributed to the early momentum our government has achieved.
7. Prioritising the most critical elements of our work programme has reduced the risk of the public service becoming distracted from the agenda of change we promised to New Zealanders.
8. Upfront agreement from ministers on the upcoming work programme has streamlined the Cabinet Committee process, with discussions focused on details and delivery.
9. Regular monitoring has ensured we continue to progress work at pace, with opportunities to intervene with officials if work begins to stall.
10. Sequencing our work programme in advance has also helped to manage the finite resource of the House, Cabinet and PCO where legislative change was required.
11. I am determined to maintain this momentum, particularly in our first year of government, by retaining the disciplines of regular planning and reporting. On that basis I propose to

present a series of Quarterly Plans to Cabinet that outline the Government's priorities for the upcoming weeks and months.

12. Today I am asking Cabinet to agree to a proposed Quarter 2 Plan (Q2 Plan) set out in the Appendix. It will run from 1 April to 30 June 2024. As with our 100-Day Plan it includes the key next steps and lead portfolio for 35 commitments in three broad areas: rebuilding the economy and easing the cost of living, restoring law and order, and delivering better public services.
13. I intend to return to Cabinet with future quarterly plans in June and September, in addition to today's plan.
14. I intend for these Plans to balance quick, discrete changes with specific stages of more significant long-term work programmes. Allowing the plans to become dominated by the former risks losing sight of the important priorities over the longer-term.
15. To achieve this balance, the Q2 Plan has been informed by Ministers' priorities letters and consultation. I have also been mindful of the constraints of House time, that the Budget will be a key focus for ministers in Q2, and agencies will also be busy implementing commitments from the 100-Day Plan and delivering on the government's efficiency programme.

Implementation

16. I will respond to ministers' priorities letters, reflecting the decisions we make today. Some of the priorities in those letters will be included in future quarterly plans but ministers and agencies should not wait to begin work on them, should they have the capacity to do so.
17. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), in consultation with ministers and agencies, will report initially fortnightly to Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR) on progress against the actions in the quarterly plans. There will be more frequent reporting to me on an exception basis where there are concerns about delivery. I expect that sector ministerial groups will also have strategic conversations and monitor deliverables. I will be looking for lead ministers to support the drive for delivery.
18. As with the 100-Day Plan, DPMC will convene the agencies responsible for delivering the quarterly plans to ensure traction and alignment between ministers and the public service. Reporting against actions will also feed into the refreshed performance framework being developed by the Public Service Commission for agencies and Chief Executives. Central agencies are working on how they can work collectively to support the Government's focus on agency performance and delivery.

Financial implications

19. This paper has no direct financial implications. However, any financial implications associated with delivering these commitments will need to be managed through our fiscal sustainability and Budget processes, to avoid putting further pressure on our already constrained fiscal position. Agencies responsible for the delivery of the commitments will need to provide reprioritisation options in the first instance, as well as delivery and phasing options.

Legislative implications

20. This paper has no direct legislative implications. The legislative implications of the commitments will be considered as part of the policy development process. I expect our upcoming decisions on the prioritisation of bills will reflect the decisions we make today.

Impact analysis

21. Regulatory impact analysis is not required as there are no policy proposals for decision in this paper. For the avoidance of doubt, the usual regulatory impact analysis requirements, including QA, will apply to future regulatory proposals.

Use of External Resources

22. No external resources were used in producing this paper.

Consultation

23. DPMC drafted this paper. Departments were consulted on the matters relevant to them. I consulted with ministers responsible for commitments in the Q2 Plan and with coalition partners.

Communications and proactive release

24. I plan to announce the commitments in the Q2 Plan in the coming days. I intend to proactively release this paper and the Cabinet minute, subject to any necessary redactions, within 30 business days of Cabinet's decisions.

Recommendations

25. The Prime Minister recommends that Cabinet:

1. Agree to the Coalition Government's Quarter 2 Plan to deliver better outcomes for New Zealanders, as set out in the Appendix;
2. Agree to the lead portfolios and actions for each commitment, as set out in the Appendix;
3. Invite the Prime Minister to report back to Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR) in June and September with plans for Quarters 3 and 4 of 2024;
4. Note that to support the Government to deliver its commitments the Prime Minister has asked the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to report regularly to STR; and
5. Note that the Prime Minister intends to announce the decisions in this paper in the coming days.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister



Cabinet

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.

Quarter 2 Plan

Portfolio **Prime Minister**

On 18 March 2024, Cabinet:

- 1 **agreed** to the Coalition Government’s Quarter 2 Plan to deliver better outcomes for New Zealanders, as set out in the Appendix to the paper under CAB-24-SUB-0079;
- 2 **agreed** to the lead portfolios and actions for each commitment, as set out in the Appendix, subject to amendments as discussed at the meeting;
- 3 **invited** the Prime Minister to report back to the Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR) in June and September 2024 with plans for Quarters 3 and 4 of 2024;
- 4 **noted** that to support the Government to deliver its commitments, the Prime Minister has asked the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to report regularly to STR;
- 5 **noted** that the Prime Minister intends to announce the decisions in the paper under CAB-24-SUB-0079 in the coming days.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet