



Cabinet Office

CO (24) 1
(updated 17 August 2026)

Circular

30 January 2024

Intended for

- 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

This circular provides an updated membership list for Cabinet Committees following the ministerial change that took effect on 13 August 2026.

- 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 Economic Policy Committee (ECO);
 - 1.4 the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee (EXP);
 - 1.5 the Cabinet Foreign Policy and National Security Committee (FPS);
 - 1.6 the Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG);
 - 1.7 the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee (SOU);
 - 1.8 the Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR), which will take over the Cabinet 100-Day Plan Committee (100) after the first 100 days of the National, ACT, and New Zealand First Coalition Government have passed.
- 2 The updated Cabinet committee terms of reference and membership are attached.

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Secretary of the Cabinet

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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 Christopher Luxon (Chair)

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Matt Doocey
Hon Nicola Grigg

Hon David Seymour (*Deputy Chair*)

Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Karen Chhour
Hon James Meager

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets in the first and third (where applicable) week of each Parliamentary sitting block.

Cabinet Business Committee (CBC)

To consider policy issues, appointments, bills, and legislation, and other matters that require decisions before the next scheduled applicable Cabinet committee meeting, when other committees are not meeting and the House of Representatives is adjourned. CBC meets only on a strictly if required basis.

Membership

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon (Chair)

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Todd McClay

Hon David Seymour (*Deputy Chair*)

Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Mark Mitchell

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets in recess weeks, if required

Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO)

To consider policy relating to New Zealand's economy, including small business, agriculture, trade, environment, climate change, and workplace relations matters.

Membership

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
 Rt Hon Winston Peters
 Hon Chris Bishop (*Deputy Chair*)
 Hon Shane Jones
 Hon Erica Stanford
 Hon Louise Upston
 Hon Tama Potaka
 Hon Nicola Grigg
 Hon Scott Simpson
 Hon Andrew Hoggard
 Simon Court, MP

Hon David Seymour
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)
 Hon Brooke van Velden
 Hon Simeon Brown
 Hon Paul Goldsmith
 Hon Todd McClay
 Hon Simon Watts
 Hon Penny Simmonds
 Hon James Meager
 Hon Cameron Brewer
 Hon Mark Patterson
 Jenny Marcroft, MP

Relevant Portfolios

ACC
 Agriculture
 Auckland
 Biosecurity
 Building and Construction
 Climate Change
 Commerce and Consumer Affairs
 Conservation
 Customs
 Economic Growth
 Emergency Management and Recovery
 Energy
 Environment
 Finance
 Food Safety
 Forestry
 Housing
 Hunting and Fishing
 Immigration
 Infrastructure
 Internal Affairs
 Local Government

Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
 Māori Development
 Media and Communications
 Oceans and Fisheries
 Public Service and Digitising Government
 Racing
 Regional Development
 Resources
 Revenue
 RMA Reform
 Rural Communities
 Science, Innovation and Technology
 Small Business and Manufacturing
 Social Development and Employment
 South Island
 Space
 State Owned Enterprises
 Statistics
 Tertiary Education
 Tourism and Hospitality
 Trade and Investment
 Transport
 Workplace Relations and Safety

Timing

Meets weekly in sitting weeks.

Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee (EXP)

To:

- review significant expenditure, investment, and procurement proposals, including those with implications for the Budget.
- consider significant regulatory processes, systems, and proposals.
- consider strategic and policy matters relating to the public sector and government administration.

EXP will consider the outcomes of significant expenditure review and regulatory review programmes. Business as usual expenditure and regulatory issues will be considered at other relevant Cabinet committees.

Membership

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Mike Butterick
Hon Mark Patterson

Hon David Seymour (Chair)
Hon Nicola Willis (*Deputy Chair*)
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Mark Mitchell
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Penny Simmonds
Hon Andrew Hoggard

Relevant Portfolios

Corrections
Defence
Education
Finance
Health
Infrastructure
Internal Affairs
Land Information

Local Government
Police
Public Service and Digitising Government
Regulation
Revenue
RMA Reform
Social Development and Employment
Transport

Timing

Meets in the first and third (where applicable) week of each Parliamentary sitting block.

Cabinet Foreign Policy and National Security Committee (FPS)

- To consider matters relating to foreign policy and external relations.
- Oversight of the national security and intelligence sector, and to consider policy and legislative proposals relating to the sector, to significant hazards, and to defence (excluding defence procurement).
- To co-ordinate and direct national responses to major crises or circumstances affecting national security (either domestic or international).

FPS, or a subcommittee 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 Christopher Luxon
Rt Hon Winston Peters (Chair)
 Hon Paul Goldsmith
 Hon Todd McClay

Hon David Seymour
 Hon Nicola Willis
 Hon Mark Mitchell (*Deputy Chair*)
 Hon Nicola Grigg

Relevant Portfolios

Biosecurity
 Climate Change
 Customs
 Defence
 Emergency Management and Recovery
 Foreign Affairs

GCSB and NZSIS
 Health
 Immigration
 National Security and Intelligence
 Police
 Trade and Investment

Timing

Meets in the second week of each Parliamentary sitting block, or as required.

Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG)

To consider the legislation programme, draft Bills and secondary legislation, and 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 Christopher Luxon

Rt Hon Winston Peters

Hon Brooke van Velden

Hon Louise Upston (Chair)

Hon Tama Potaka

Hon Casey Costello

Hon James Meager

Hon Cameron Brewer

Stuart Smith, MP (Senior National Whip)

Jamie Arbuckle, MP (New Zealand First Whip)

Hon David Seymour

Hon Chris Bishop

Hon Shane Jones

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Hon Simon Watts

Hon Nicole McKee

Hon Scott Simpson (*Deputy Chair*)

Hon Mike Butterick

Todd Stephenson, MP (ACT Whip)

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets weekly in sitting weeks.

Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee (SOU)

To consider matters relating to improving social outcomes, including healthcare, social housing access, and law and order.

Membership

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
 Rt Hon Winston Peters
 Hon Chris Bishop
 Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
 Hon Tama Potaka
 Hon Casey Costello
 Hon Penny Simmonds
 Hon Scott Simpson

Hon David Seymour
 Hon Nicola Willis
 Hon Simeon Brown (*Deputy Chair*)
 Hon Paul Goldsmith
 Hon Mark Mitchell
 Hon Nicole McKee
 Hon Matt Doocey
 Hon Nicola Grigg
 Hon Karen Chhour

Relevant Portfolios

ACC
 Arts, Culture and Heritage
 Child Poverty Reduction
 Children
 Community and Voluntary Sector
 Corrections
 Courts
 Disability Issues
 Education
 Ethnic Communities
 Health
 Housing
 Justice
 Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
 Māori Development

Mental Health
 Pacific Peoples
 Police
 Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence
 Rural Communities
 Seniors
 Social Development and Employment
 Social Investment
 Sport and Recreation
 Tertiary Education
 Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
 Veterans
 Whānau Ora
 Women
 Youth

Timing

Meets weekly in sitting weeks.

Cabinet Strategy Committee (STR)

To:

- consider overall Government priorities and strategic issues;
- monitor the delivery and implementation of the Government's work programme;
- consider significant issues and policy areas as determined by the Prime Minister or Cabinet. Detailed policy development and implementation aspects of these issues will be considered by the relevant policy committee once the strategic direction has been set.

Membership

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon (Chair)

Rt Hon Winston Peters
 Hon Chris Bishop
 Hon Shane Jones
 Hon Simeon Brown
 Hon Louise Upston
 Hon Todd McClay

Hon David Seymour (*Deputy Chair*)

Hon Nicola Willis
 Hon Brooke van Velden
 Hon Erica Stanford
 Hon Paul Goldsmith
 Hon Mark Mitchell
 Hon Tama Potaka

Relevant Portfolios

All portfolios

Timing

Meets in the second week of each Parliamentary sitting block.