



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Social Sector Commissioning Action Plan 2022 to 2028

**Portfolio**                      **Social Development and Employment**

On 3 August 2022, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC):

#### Background

- 1        **noted** that in November 2021, SWC:
  - 1.1      agreed to adopt a relational approach to commissioning across government funded social sector services;
  - 1.2      agreed to a set of principles that underpin a relational approach to commissioning;
  - 1.3      invited the Minister for Social Development and Employment to report back with a detailed implementation plan and final set of commitments for social sector commissioning;[SWC-21-MIN-0173]
- 2        **noted** that implementing a relational approach to commissioning is:
  - 2.1      guided by the purpose of supporting individuals, families and whānau to live a life they value;
  - 2.2      expected to contribute to the outcome of improved intergenerational wellbeing;

#### Action plan for implementing a relational approach to commissioning

- 3        **noted** that a relational approach to commissioning builds on and complements existing reforms and change initiatives in the social sector and will add value through addressing system barriers and policy issues common to government agencies but outside the mandate of any one agency;
- 4        **agreed** to the Social Sector Commissioning Action Plan 2022-2028 (the Action Plan), attached under SWC-22-SUB-0140, which introduces relational approaches to commissioning over a six-year pathway of change and leads to relational approaches to commissioning becoming normalised practice from 2028;

- 5 **agreed** that work on implementing the Action Plan begin immediately and relational commissioning principles be mandatory for the following social sector government departments and joint ventures: the Ministries of Social Development, Justice, Health, Education, and Business, Innovation and Employment; Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People; the Ministries for Pacific Peoples, Ethnic Communities, and Youth Development; Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Children; Ara Poutama Aotearoa – Department of Corrections; Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development; Te Puna Aonui – Joint Venture on Family Violence and Sexual Violence; Department of Internal Affairs; and Te Puni Kōkiri;
- 6 **agreed** to invite the following Crown entities to implement the Action Plan and immediately begin upholding the relational commissioning principles: New Zealand Police; Accident Compensation Corporation; Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand; Te Aka Whai Ora - Māori Health Authority; Kainga Ora; and the Tertiary Education Commission;
- 7 **noted** that Non-Government Organisations and communities will be invited to participate in implementing the Action Plan;
- 8 **agreed** to the commitments, set out in Table Four of the Action Plan, for improving current commissioning arrangements;
- 9 **noted** that the Social Sector Commissioning Hub that was funded through Budget 2022 will be located in the Ministry of Social Development;

### Action Plan implementation

- 10 **directed** the social sector government departments and invite the social sector Crown entities specified in paragraphs 5 and 6 above to commence work on implementing the commitments for improvements to current commissioning, including the prioritised commitments set out in Diagram Four of the Action Plan;
- 11 **directed** the Social Sector Commissioning Hub to work with and support government agencies and invited Crown entities to enable them to implement relational approaches to commissioning through existing major government reform work programmes as outlined in Action 4 of the Action Plan;
- 12 **directed** social sector government departments and **invited** social sector Crown entities to submit draft plans to the Social Wellbeing Board by mid-2023 on how they will embed a relational approach to commissioning that is consistent with the six-year pathway to change in Diagram Two of the Action Plan;
- 13 **noted** that existing major government reform work programmes will not be delayed or limited by the Action Plan;
- 14 **noted** that the Action Plan will be implemented in coordination with existing government strategies and work programmes;
- 15 **directed** the Social Wellbeing Board to report to the Minister for Social Development and Employment by mid-2023 on its assessment of government department and any Crown entity plans for embedding relational approaches to commissioning that is consistent with the six-year pathway to change;
- 16 **directed** government agencies to consult with responsible Minister(s) on their draft plans prior to submitting them to the Social Wellbeing Board, and on any revisions to those plans that arise from the Social Wellbeing Board's consideration of them;

**Immediate steps**

- 17 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and Minister for Social Development and Employment, in consultation with other relevant Ministers and following consultation with Māori including Pou Tangata and other key Māori organisations, to agree an initial set of metrics to measure the impact of the social sector commissioning work programme and the contribution it makes to peoples' lives and wellbeing by 31 December 2022;
- 18 **invited** the Minister for Social Development and Employment to provide regular reporting on the agreed set of metrics outlined above to the Cabinet Priorities Committee;
- 19 **noted** that the Minister for Social Development and Employment, in consultation with other relevant Ministers, will lead communications on social sector commissioning including the release of the implementation plan and commitments;
- 20 **agreed** to the publication of the Action Plan;

**Governance arrangements**

- 21 **noted** that in November 2021, SWC agreed that:
- 21.1 the Minister for Social Development and Employment would be the Lead Minister for social sector commissioning;
- 21.2 the Social Wellbeing Board (SWB) would be responsible for providing system stewardship for a relational approach to commissioning;
- [SWC-21-MIN-0173]
- 22 **noted** that the Lead Minister will approve the terms of reference for the Stewardship Group outlined under Action 7 of the Action Plan;
- 23 **noted** that the Stewardship Group will include representatives from groups across the social sector who are affected by commissioning.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)  
Hon Andrew Little  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Peeni Henare  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Jan Tinetti  
Hon Aupito William Sio  
Hon Marama Davidson

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Office of the Chair  
Officials Committee for SWC