



Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

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.

Strengthening Social Cohesion in Aotearoa New Zealand

Portfolio **Social Development and Employment**

On 22 June 2022, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

Social cohesion strategic and measurement frameworks

- 1 **noted** that in May 2021, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC) agreed to the proposed approach for working with communities to deliver the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 15 March 2019 social cohesion recommendations, including to:
 - 1.1 engage with communities to create a strategic framework based on a shared understanding of social cohesion that is focused on what unites us as people in Aotearoa New Zealand, while valuing diversity and taking tangible steps to become an inclusive society;
 - 1.2 build on the government's existing work programmes through tangible government actions in the short, medium, and long-term to improve social cohesion;
 - 1.3 identify how to support and enable communities, the business sector, the cultural sector, and central and local government to undertake actions to improve social cohesion in their communities, including specific ways different stakeholders can contribute;

[SWC-21-MIN-0074]


- 2 **agreed** to the social cohesion strategic framework attached as Appendix three under SWC-22-SUB-0113, subject to minor editorial changes and design;
- 3 **agreed** to the social cohesion measurement framework attached in Appendix four under SWC-22-SUB-0113, subject to minor editorial changes and design;

Social cohesion government work programme

- 4 **agreed** to the social cohesion government work programme, attached as Appendix five under SWC-22-SUB-0113, consisting of:
 - 4.1 existing actions previously agreed by Cabinet [CAB-19-MIN-0307.01, CAB-20-MIN-0513, SWC-19-MIN-0099, CAB-19-MIN-0385];

- 4.2 other existing government actions that contribute to the outcomes in the social cohesion strategic framework but not identified in the decisions under paragraph 4.1 above;
- 4.3 new actions for:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



- 5 **agreed** that the Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment publicly release the following documents attached under SWC-22-SUB-0113, subject to minor editorial and design changes, and changes to ensure accessibility:
- 5.1 the social cohesion strategic framework across government, communities, and sectors (Appendix three);
- 5.2 Social cohesion in Aotearoa New Zealand: baseline report of indicators (Appendix two);
- 5.3 the social cohesion information sheets for communities, sectors and individuals (Appendix six);
- 5.4 the government work programme (Appendix five);
- 5.5 the 'What We Heard' document (Appendix one);
- 6 **directed** the Ministry of Social Development to report back to the Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment in 2024 with an update on implementation and social cohesion indicators;
- 7 **noted** the importance of other existing government and community-led activities that support social cohesion, including the national action plan against racism;

Social cohesion grant fund

- 8 **noted** that as part of Budget 2022 decisions:
- 8.1 Cabinet agreed to the *Social Cohesion - Fund to support community-led initiatives to foster social cohesion* contingency initiative (the contingency) to establish a contestable grant fund that supports community-led projects which foster social cohesion [CAB-22-MIN-0129];

8.2 the Minister of Finance, Minister for Social Development and Employment and Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment may jointly draw down the contingency once Cabinet has approved the design of the contestable fund;

8.3 the expiry date for the contingency is 30 November 2022;

9 **agreed** to the following design of the contestable social cohesion grant fund:

9.1 the grant fund is open to local marae, whānau, hapū, iwi and community organisations, multicultural councils and faith-based groups;

9.2 the grant fund will support community-led initiatives including arts and cultural events, social gatherings and hui;

9.3 the grant fund will not fund activities intended to make a profit, purchase alcohol, be intended for limited companies that are not registered charities or contribute to permanent FTEs or salaries;

9.4 the grant fund will prioritise initiatives that contribute to one or more of the following priority outcome areas: inclusion and equity, recognition and respect, and trust;

9.5 the grant fund will operate as a co-funding model, where the community contribution may be in kind;

10 **agreed** that the social cohesion grant fund can proceed;

11 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to provide for the decision in paragraph 10 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Social Development Minister for Social Development and Employment	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
Multi-category Expenses and Capital Expenditure					
Community Support Services					
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Community Support and Advise	2.000	-	-	-	-

12 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2022/23 above be included in the 2022/23 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;

13 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraph 11 above be charged against the ‘Social Cohesion – Fund to support community-led initiatives to foster social cohesion – Tagged Operating Contingency’;

- 14 **noted** that the above drawdown will leave a nil balance in the ‘Social Cohesion – Fund to support community-led initiatives to foster social cohesion tagged operating contingency – Tagged Operating Contingency’.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Hon Andrew Little
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Kiri Allan
Hon Aupito Williams Sio
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan

Officials present from:

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