

## PLAN FOR THE EQUITABLE TRANSITIONS STRATEGY

The Ministers of Social Development and Economic Development are seeking the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee's agreement to defer the publication of the Draft Equitable Transitions Strategy so that the scope can be expanded <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>

### Context

The **Equitable Transitions Strategy** is focused on seizing the opportunities and managing the impacts of our transition to a low emissions future, in a way that is fair and inclusive for all New Zealanders.

### The transition to a low emission economy will have both opportunities and challenges

MBIE and MSD are co-leading the development of the Strategy (supported by MoE and MOT). The draft Strategy aims to ensure that people, businesses and communities, particularly those most affected by the transition, are empowered and supported to seize the opportunities and manage the impacts of the transition. It sets out a vision, principles and framework to guide Government decision-making including upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It also highlights existing policies to address climate-related challenges and seeks feedback on possible new actions to support an equitable transition for households, workers, business, and communities.

### Public and targeted engagement held in early 2023

To inform the draft Strategy, 37 in-person and online hui were held around the country with a variety of priority population groups (including Māori, Pasifika, ethnic and migrant, and disabled peoples), and a further 67 meetings with other interested organisations.

Engagement told us that:

- many people are already struggling with cost-of-living pressures, and the rising costs that occur due to the transition would be an additional burden
- there was concern that those who are already disadvantaged will face additional challenges
- the cost and accessibility of transport, housing and energy due to the transition is a common concern
- there is uncertainty about what information about climate change and the transition can be relied on
- people support locally-led and regionally tailored solutions
- partnering with Māori to develop emission reduction policies and support an equitable transition is important.

### Proposal to defer release of draft Strategy

In 2022, Cabinet agreed that:

- The scope of the Equitable Transitions Strategy will focus on the transition to a low emissions future (mitigation) and will not extend to adaptation issues
- A draft Strategy will be released for consultation by 30 June 2023, and a final Strategy by June 2024.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

**We propose reporting back to Cabinet in late-2023 with an updated project timeline and scope.**

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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