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**Welfare Overhaul – Advice from the Welfare Expert Advisory Group and Next Steps**

Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development

Welfare Overhaul – Advice from the Welfare Expert Advisory Group and Next Steps
31 May 2019

These documents have been proactively released.

Cabinet minute confirmed on 15 April 2019.

**15 April 2019 - Welfare Overhaul – Advice from the Welfare Expert Advisory Group and Next Steps - Office of the Minister for Social Development**

*This paper replaces the version released on 3 May 2019. This revised version has been released to reflect decisions announced as part of Budget 2019.*

In May 2018 the Government established the Welfare Expert Advisory Group (WEAG), to provide independent advice to the Government on the overhaul of the welfare system. The WEAG delivered its final advice in February 2019.

The Cabinet paper provides an overview of key themes in the WEAG’s report and their recommendations. It also outlines the Government’s progress on the overhaul of the welfare system.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. This is the key to the redaction codes used for this release:

* Section 9(2)(f)(iv): This information is under active consideration. The release of this information at this time would be likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.
* Section 9(2)(a): This information is withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

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