

Memorandum of Understanding Between The New Zealand National Party and The Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand

Purpose

The National Party and the Green Party wish to work together to develop policy and legislation in areas of common interest. The purpose of this MoU is to establish a framework within which the Parties can engage in such areas as are identified from time to time.

Principles

The following principles underpin this working relationship:

- Both Parties are fully independent and retain their rights to vote and speak on all issues as they see fit
- The intent of both Parties is to establish a good faith working relationship
- This agreement is not based on any prerequisite policy commitments

Framework

To facilitate a working relationship in identified policy areas, the National Party agrees to provide the Green Party:

- Access to Ministers and appropriate departmental officials for briefings and advice
- Input into the Ministerial decision making process, including Cabinet papers

The Green Party agrees:

- To consider facilitating government legislation via procedural support on a case by case basis

Both Parties agree:

- To keep the details of working discussions confidential until negotiations are concluded, whether the result ends in agreement or not
- To facilitate this joint working relationship, the leadership of both Parties will meet at least quarterly to monitor progress, assess the overall relationship and to agree areas where joint work will occur
- To review this MoU yearly to assess its effectiveness and determine whether it should continue

John Key
Leader

Jeanette Fitzsimons
Co-Leader

Russel Norman
Co-Leader

Appendix

Areas of agreed work will include:

1. Home insulation

The Minister of Energy and Resources, Hon Gerry Brownlee, and Green Party Energy Spokesperson, Jeanette Fitzsimons, will work together to determine the design and funding of a home insulation, clean heating and energy efficiency programme to start no later than 1 July 2009, which will target private homes and private sector rental homes.

2. Energy Efficiency

The Minister of Energy and Resources, Hon Gerry Brownlee, and Green Party Energy Spokesperson, Jeanette Fitzsimons, will work together on the implementation, timing, and funding of energy efficiency measures that the Government wishes to advance. In particular, Ms Fitzsimons will be involved in the development of the energy efficiency sections of the updated and revised New Zealand Energy Strategy, and the updated Energy and Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

In areas of agreed co-operation, Ms Fitzsimons will have access to officials working on the programme, including those in EECA, MoT, MED and DBH or other appropriate Ministries, after defining these with appropriate Ministries. Joint statements will be made on steps delivered in the Strategies where we have worked co-operatively.

3. Regulation of New Zealand Natural Health products

The Minister of Health, Tony Ryall, Assoc Minister of Health, Jonathan Coleman and Green party Health spokesperson Sue Kedgley will work together to develop and implement a New Zealand based regulatory system for natural health products that are sold in New Zealand. Ms Kedgley will have access to officials working on the project, including from the Ministry of Health, MedSafe, NZSSA and other agencies as needed. Joint statements will be made on progress in implementing the new regulatory system.