



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Publication of the National Adaptation Plan

Portfolio Climate Change

On 1 August 2022, following reference from the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV), Cabinet:

National Adaptation Plan

- 1 **noted** that on 24 March 2021, DEV agreed in principle to the strategic direction for the first National Adaptation Plan (the Plan), subject to further refinements following engagement and consultation [DEV-21-MIN-0049];
- 2 **noted** that:
 - 2.1 on 11 April 2022, Cabinet noted that a draft of the Plan would be released for public consultation [CAB-22-MIN-0118];
 - 2.2 the consultation ran from 28 April to 3 June 2022;
- 3 **noted** that the Minister of Climate Change intends to publicly release the Plan, attached to the paper under CAB-22-SUB-0287, in accordance with his statutory obligations under the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (the CCRA);
- 4 **noted** that the Minister of Climate Change intends to publish the Plan and present a copy to the House of Representatives no later than 3 August 2022;
- 5 **noted** the following focus areas for the Plan:
 - 5.1 enabling New Zealanders to make better risk-based decisions;
 - 5.2 driving climate-resilient development in the right locations;
 - 5.3 adaptation options, including managed retreat;
 - 5.4 embedding climate resilience;
- 6 **noted** the intention of the Minister of Climate Change to retain reference to the concepts of the Rauora framework in the Plan;
- 7 **noted** that the Plan will contain a new section on implementation that provides information on how New Zealanders can participate in the delivery of actions;

8 9(2)(f)(iv)

9 **agreed** that the Plan will recommend that councils should use the following scenarios when making or changing policy statements or plans under the Resource Management Act 1991, including to give effect to the provisions of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement:

9.1 the Shared Socioeconomic Pathway (SSP) scenario for fossil fuel intensive development (SSP5-8.5), where available, or the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) RCP8.5, to 2130, to screen for hazards and risks in coastal areas;

9.2 both the middle of the road scenario (SSP2-4.5) and the fossil fuel intensive development scenario (SSP5-8.5) where available, or RCP4.5 and RCP8.5, to 2130, for detailed hazard and risk assessments in coastal and non-coastal areas. Councils should also add the relevant rate of vertical land movement locally;

9.3 the most recent downscaled climate projections for New Zealand for all other climate hazards and risks;

10 **agreed** that in addition to the above, councils should stress test plans, policies and strategies using a range of scenarios as recommended in the interim guidance on the use of new NZSeaRise sea-level rise projections and the National Climate Change Risk Assessment Framework, as relevant to the circumstance;

Ministerial co-ordination and accountability

11 **agreed** that relevant Ministers and Public Service Chief Executives be responsible for overseeing progress of actions that fall under their respective Ministerial portfolios, as outlined in the summary table of actions that will be released alongside the final Plan (attached as Appendix 4 to the paper under CAB-22-SUB-0287). This applies only to actions that have the necessary Cabinet approval and budget funding;

12 **noted** that on 7 March 2022, Cabinet agreed to formalise the Climate Change Chief Executives Board as an Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) under the Public Service Act 2020 [CAB-22-MIN-0055.01];

13 **noted** that the members of the IEB will be jointly responsible to the Prime Minister;

14 **agreed** that the IEB be responsible for overseeing the overall implementation of the Plan, periodically assessing its sufficiency, and advising where course corrections are needed;

15 **agreed** to expand the functions of the IEB to:

15.1 report to the Prime Minister annually on the implementation of the Plan as a whole;

15.2 report to the Prime Minister every two years on the overall sufficiency of the actions in addressing the risks within the scope of the Plan;

16 **agreed** to expand the remit of the IEB to include the Department of Internal Affairs and the National Emergency Management Agency;

17 **invited** the Minister for the Public Service to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to prepare an Order in Council to reflect the changes outlined in paragraphs 14 and 15 above;

- 18 **noted** that the Public Service Commissioner will designate the initial membership of the IEB from within the Board's current remit, including Chair, following consultation with the Prime Minister and Minister for the Public Service, and may review the membership periodically;
- 19 **noted** that the Minister of Climate Change considers that the Plan satisfies the mandatory content requirements set out in section 5ZS(2) of the CCRA;
- 20 **noted** that the Minister of Climate Change has taken into account the mandatory matters required by section 5ZS(4) of the CCRA;
- 21 **noted** that the Plan will be subject to a final professional format and edit prior to publication;
- 22 **authorised** the Minister of Climate Change to make minor editorial changes to the Plan prior to its release, in line with decisions previously agreed by Cabinet.

Rachel Hayward
Acting Secretary of the Cabinet

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