

Ministerial Advisory Group on the Government Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry on the terrorist attack on Christchurch mosques

Kāpuia Advice: 2022/01

24 March 2022

Hon Andrew Little Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to The Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques

E Te Minita, Tēnā Koe,

Thank you for your two recent letters to Kāpuia as we came together for our first two hui of 2022.

The third anniversary of the March 15 attacks and other events, including the protests in Wellington and around the motu, so far this year have highlighted to our roopu the continued importance of working towards a more inclusive Aotearoa that is a safe place for everyone.

Thank you for sharing the Government's RCOI response work programme and associated timeframes as agreed by Cabinet and for highlighting areas in the 2022 work programme where you believe Kāpuia's advice will be especially important. We will focus our attention on these areas as we consider our advice to you on the Government's response and feedback to the lead agencies.

I am pleased to report that Kāpuia has already engaged with a number of agencies leading work in these areas, and we look forward to engaging more deeply on these issues and other areas we have yet to be consulted on over the course of the year. We also look forward to contributing to upcoming work on the Response Impact Framework as this mahi is key to guiding change over time. We have noted, however, one of the areas you have identified as important this year is the continuation of work on hate-motivated and incitement offences but we understand this work has now been delayed. We stand by our earlier advice that adequate and meaningful community consultation on these significant issues remains important, and we would appreciate an update from you or the Minister of Justice on the next steps now for this important programme of work.

You may also be interested to know that to assist us to operate more effectively and delve deeper into issues, we are in the process of setting up small thematic groups to provide more detailed advice to the main roopu on the Government's proposals across all the RCOI recommendations. We believe this will ensure we can continue to provide timely and fulsome advice and feedback to agencies and officials leading responses to the RCOI recommendations.

I would also like to thank you for providing an overview of how our advice added value to the longerterm work programme for the Government's response to the RCOI report that was considered by Cabinet last December. As a roopu, we urge agencies to maintain momentum, while also acknowledging a difficult start to the year for many with the Omicron outbreak. We continue to look forward to working with you on this important kaupapa.

Ngā mihi

met

Arihia Bennett MNZM Chair Kāpuia