



RCOI Response Steering Group Minutes

Date/Time	2/03/2023 10.00 – 11.00 am
Venue	Cabinet Committee Room (8.5), Beehive and Virtual via Zoom
Chair	Director, National Security Policy Directorate, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
In attendance	Corrections, Customs, Department of Internal Affairs, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, New Zealand Security Intelligence Service, Government Communications Security Bureau, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Defence, New Zealand Police, Statistics New Zealand and The Treasury.
Apologies	New Zealand Defence Force, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Item	Topic
1	<p>Welcome and Chair’s update</p> <p>The Chair welcomed attendees to the first meeting for 2023 and provided an update on some on some key developments since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the new Prime Minister and change of Ministers, the following Responsible Ministers for the Royal Commission of Inquiry response have been changed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minister for National Security and Intelligence; ○ Minister of Police; ○ Minister of Internal Affairs; ○ Minister of Education; and ○ Minister for the Public Service. • Announcement by Minister of Justice to refer the work on legislative response to hate speech and hate-motivated offending to the Law Commission for consideration. • The Royal Commission of Inquiry Progress Tracker (the Tracker), dated February 2023, was being updated and was under Ministerial consultation. The Chair thanked all for providing feedback and noted that they may be asked to support their Ministers on content related to their respective activities. The Tracker was expected to be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet website in March 2023. <p>The Chair noted the Prime Minister’s statement in the House in February – in which the Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to the Royal Commission of Inquiry response work.</p> <p>The minutes of the prior meeting (14 December 2022) were taken as read and accepted for publishing – subject to any further feedback from agencies after the meeting. The Chair noted attendance of agencies are recorded in the minutes.</p>

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2	<p>National Security Strategy and Programme of Action – Status update</p> <p>DPMC provided an update on the National Security Strategy and Programme of Action. In 2022, DPMC conducted a National Security Policy Review which concluded with Cabinet endorsing its findings and directing a National Security Strategy be developed. This work is part of the national security system reform work DPMC has been leading in response to recommendations 1, 2 and 3 of the Royal Commission of Inquiry’s report (the RCOI report). It is intended to apply the lessons learnt from the RCOI report to how national security risks and how the system is arranged.</p> <p>DPMC noted that once approved by Cabinet, the National Security Strategy would be publicly launched.</p>
3	<p>National Security Reform – Machinery of Government</p> <p>DPMC provided an update on the work on changes to the national security system, which relates to recommendations 1, 2 and 3.</p>
4	<p>Kāpuia – forward agenda for 2023</p> <p>The Kāpuia Secretariat outlined the roopu’s draft forward work programme for 2023. There would be a focus on panel sessions where agencies with related workstreams would engage together with Kāpuia. As an example, agencies that focus on digital and online safety would come along to a hui at the same time. Hui would be held in March, May, July, and August. Plans for a hui following the election would be made closer to the time.</p> <p>In February 2023, Kāpuia wrote a letter to the Lead Coordination Minister a summarising advice the roopu provided to Ministers and agencies in 2022. The letter was circulated to Ministers responsible for the RCOI. In line with Kāpuia’s TOR, the letter and the Minister’s response would be published on the DPMC website in due course.</p> <p>New Action (number 33): DPMC to circulate Kāpuia’s letter of advice to the Lead Coordination Minister from 7 February 2023 to RSG after the meeting.</p>
5	<p>Agency updates</p> <p>The Chair invited agencies to provide updates on their workstreams.</p> <p><u>Update on the Social Cohesion work programme and the Collective Impact Board</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) had been working with the Collective Impact Board (the Board) which had raised policy themes for consideration. MSD explained that the process for raising issues was that the Board would refer matters to the Kaiwhakaoranga Case Management Service – if these were unable to be resolved operationally, they were escalated by the Board for policy consideration. Once an issue was escalated, MSD policy triaged the issues to determine whether it aligned with MSD’s responsibilities or whether another agency or agencies had a mandate to consider it. MSD referred the issue to the most appropriate team for consideration.</p> <p>The following issues had been raised and were being progressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • study and training opportunities for widows of the March 15 victims; • payment of residence visa fees; and • the use of Community Services card. <p>MSD was preparing advice on future direction of the social cohesion work programme to be provided to Minister Radhakrishnan. MSD was also developing a guide for policy analysts to think about social cohesion more broadly.</p> <p><u>Update on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) strategic framework and fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 4 directs a development of a counter-terrorism strategy with consultation with the public. The strategic framework was developed in 2022 following 50 hui with 400 people across New Zealand. This was delivered to the previous Prime Minister and DPMC is now working with the current Prime Minister to get the framework finalised and launched.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget 22 agreed to fund over three years to support delivery of the PCVE initiatives. \$675,000 was made available for 2022/23 and the PCVE fund will be launched in March 2023. <p><u>Update on Open Government Partnership Action Plan</u></p> <p>Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission provided an update on the Open Government Partnership Action Plan which was endorsed by Cabinet and published in December 2022. Commitment One of the Action Plan directs the implementation of a common standard for community engagement and adopt the Policy Community Engagement Tool as a common framework.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that the Policy Community Engagement Tool – developed in response to recommendation 38 – had been successful, with the Lead Coordination Minister mandating its use for agencies responding to the RCOI report. The next step is to consider the wider use of the Tool across the public sector in 2023.</p> <p>It was noted that the next Public Service Census will occur in 2024.</p> <p><u>Update on recommendation 18</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) provided an update on policy work in response to recommendation 18 including the development of a plan for public engagement and next steps for recommendation 18. This would be presented to Kāpuia at its next hui.</p> <p>MoJ also noted that in February 2023, the Minister of Justice withdrew the draft bill on hate speech and hate-motivated offending and has referred the matter to the Law Commission for review.</p>
6	<p>Any other business</p> <p>DPMC informed the group that the Lead Coordination Minister will be attending the Sub-Regional Meeting on Counterterrorism and Transnational Security later this month and thanked agencies for the support provided for this meeting.</p>
7	<p>Meeting close</p> <p>Meeting closed at 11.00 am.</p>

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