

26 July 2021

TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

Dear	Reference: OIA-2020/21-0630

#### Official Information Act request for listed briefings

I refer to your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 28 May 2021. You requested:

"...Could I please have the following briefings:

12 Feb - Creating options for Islamic Financing in Home Loans

17 Feb - Govt response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Terrorist Attack on Christchurch Mosques: Status update

2 Mar – Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet: Building Community Trust and Confidence Budget 2021 Initiative

5 Mar - Cabinet Discussion - Royal Commission Report back..."

I understand the time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 20 working days to allow for further consultations to be undertaken. Following this, I am now in a position to respond.

Please find enclosed copies of the documents you requested. Some information has been withheld as marked under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 9(2)(a), as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons;
- Section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which
  protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials;
- Section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on DPMC's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely

Tony Lynch

Deputy Chief Executive National Security Group

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# **Briefing**

# CREATING OPTIONS FOR ISLAMIC FINANCING IN HOME LOANS

To 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)

Date	12/02/2021	Priority	Routine
Deadline	N/A	Briefing Number	2021NSP/058

#### **Purpose**

This briefing responds to your request for information on the availability of Islamic financing options for home loans within New Zealand.

#### Recommendations

- 1. **Note** that there are not currently any Islamic financing options for home loans available in New Zealand
- 2. 9(2)(f)(iv)

YES / NO

Tony Lynch Deputy Chief Executive, National Security

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

CREATING OPTIONS FOR ISLAMIC FINANCING IN HOME LOANS

Report No. 2021NSP/058

#### Contact for telephone discussion if required:

Name	Position	Telephone		1st contact
Tony Lynch	Deputy Chief Executive, National Security Group	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	<b>√</b>
9(2)(a)	Senior Advisor, National Security Policy Directorate	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	× 1/0

#### Minister's office comments:

<ul> <li>□ Noted</li> <li>□ Seen</li> <li>□ Approved</li> <li>□ Needs change</li> <li>□ Withdrawn</li> <li>□ Not seen by Minister</li> <li>□ Overtaken by events</li> <li>□ Referred to</li> </ul>	A Information
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Released under	

Report No. 2021NSP/058

# CREATING OPTIONS FOR ISLAMIC FINANCING IN HOME LOANS

#### **Purpose**

 This briefing responds to your request for information on the availability of Islamic financing for home loans within New Zealand.

#### **Background**

- 2. Islam prohibits the paying or receiving of interest. This has implications for the availability of lending for Muslims, given lending options in New Zealand are based around interest being paid.
- 3. The lack of a suitable product has been raised by multiple members of the Muslim community during hui relating to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain (the Royal Commission).

#### Islamic financing

- 4. Islamic finance is a financial system which operates on the principles of Islamic law. Islam considers the paying or receiving of interest unacceptable, and outlaws its practice amongst followers. Islamic financing also limits areas where funds can be invested, outlawing speculation and investment into products such as pork and alcohol which are also forbidden in Islam.
- 5. Instead of a typical New Zealand mortgage, in which a borrower buys a property from another individual and borrows money from a bank at a fixed rate of interest, Islamic financing home loans take three common forms:
  - a) Ijara (lease) whereupon a bank buys a property on behalf of an individual and rents it to them for a fixed term at an agreed monthly cost. At the end of the term, the ownership is transferred to the individual.
  - b) Musharaka (partnership) whereby a bank and an individual each own part of the property. Each month, a payment from the individual to the bank covers the rent on the bank's portion of the property and purchases additional 'shares' in the property.
  - c) Murabaha (profit) in this situation, a bank buys a property off a seller, then sells it on to an individual in equal payments over a fixed term. In lieu of interest, the bank charges a mark-up on the price that they paid for the property.
- 6. Islamic financing, in its current form, was developed in the Persian Gulf states in the 1970s, and has since spread across much of the world. Options are now available in most of our close partner countries, including the United Kingdom and Australia.

9(2)(f)(iv)



	Attachments:		
	Attachment A:	Unclassified	9(2)(f)(iv)
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# **Briefing**

# GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

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

Copy to: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence; Hon Grant Robertson, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education; Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment; Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Hon Poto Williams, Minister of Police; Hon Kris Faafoi, Minister of Justice and Minister of Immigration; Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Internal Affairs; Hon Meka Whaitiri, Minister of Customs; Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities

Date	17/02/2021	Priority	High
Deadline	N/A	Briefing Number	2021NSP/065

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this meeting is to seek updates from Ministers on initiatives relating to their portfolios as part of the Government's response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCOI) into the terrorist attack on Christchurch Mosques, and to begin preparations for the 1 March and 8 March report backs to the Cabinet Business Committee and Cabinet respectively.

#### This briefing provides:

- a) an update on select key RCOI response initiatives;
- b) feedback from community engagement to date on the Government's RCOI response;
- c) an update on the establishment of the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (recommendation 44); and
- d) detail on the contents and structure of the forthcoming RCOI Cabinet paper.

#### Recommendations

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet recommends that Ministers:

- 1. **Discuss** the content of this briefing
- 2. **Discuss** the status of RCOI initiatives that relate to Ministers' own portfolios

Tony Lynch

Deputy Chief Executive, National
Security Group

Department of the Prime Minister and
Cabinet

..../2021

Hon Andrew Little

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

..../2021

#### Contact for telephone discussion if required:

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Tony Lynch	Deputy Chief Executive, National Security Group	9(2)(a)	X
Dan Eaton	Director, National Security Policy Directorate	9(2)(a)	

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE
TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

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GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

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# GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

#### **Purpose**

- 1. The purpose of this meeting is to seek updates from Ministers on initiatives relating to their portfolios as part of the Government's response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCOI) into the terrorist attack on Christchurch Mosques, and to begin preparations for the 1 March and 8 March report backs to the Cabinet Business Committee and Cabinet respectively.
- 2. This briefing provides:
  - a) an update on select key RCOI response initiatives;
  - b) feedback from community engagement to date on the Government's RCOI response;
  - c) an update on the establishment of the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (recommendation 44); and
  - d) detail on the contents and structure of the forthcoming RCOI Cabinet paper.

#### **Background**

- 3. The Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch Mosques was tabled in the House on 8 December, 2020. The Government has accepted all of the Royal Commission's findings, agreed in-principle with the report's 44 recommendations, adopted a set of principles to guide the Government's response, and agreed funding for initiatives which could be implemented rapidly in response to the report.
- 4. The Government's initial response to the report included updates on relevant work underway and new initiatives around three areas: supporting our diverse communities, tackling harmful behaviour and discrimination, and keeping New Zealand safe. The Government announced 12 initiatives in total.
- 5. Officials are drafting a Cabinet paper to respond to the direction from Cabinet in December to report back on the implementation of the funded initiatives, as well as to provide advice on a longer-term programme of work that will aim to meet the overall intent of the Royal Commission's recommendations. The paper is on track to be considered by the Cabinet Business Committee on 1 March and then Cabinet on 8 March.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

6. Community feedback and input is crucial to ensuring a fulsome, credible, and successful response to the RCOI report. To this end, Ministers and officials have been undertaking a nation-wide programme of hui to ensure that community priorities are reflected in the Government's response planning. This feedback has fed directly into advice on how to sequence the forward work programme, including the need to establish the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group as a first priority.

#### **Update on key RCOI initiatives**

 The Prime Minister's Office has indicated a particular interest in updates on the following six initiatives. Officials have provided the following updates, and Ministers may wish to provide further information

#### Ethnic Communities' Graduate Programme

8. In response to recommendation 35 and a desire to improve government and public sector leadership on social inclusion, Cabinet agreed to commence a graduate programme for ethnic communities designed to provide pathways into the public service. Initially, there will be two tranches to the programme, each with 15 places available. The Office of Ethnic Communities is currently recruiting for the two staff members funded to run the programme, and is on track to have the first intake commence work in July 2021, and the second in January 2022.

# Wrap around services to support the families of 51 Shuhada and others affected by the attack

- 9. To better support families most impacted by the 15 March 2019 terror attacks, Cabinet agreed to the development of a Collective Impact Board to enable community partnership and involvement in decision making, and the collaborative development of specialised support for survivors and families. This is in line with recommendations 25 and 26 of the Royal Commission's report.
- 10. Work is underway to establish the Collective Impact Board and enhance services to meet the ongoing needs of affected whānau, survivors and witnesses. The work is being led by the Ministry of Social Development's Service Delivery team and supported by the Māori, Communities and Partnerships team. The Board will be based in Christchurch.
- 11. MSD has received informal feedback from affected communities, community groups and agencies to develop options on how the Collective Impact Board might be established and who needs to be involved. In addition, MSD is working with Te Kawa Mataaho Public Services Commission to consider and incorporate best practices, and will test approaches with the community before making a final recommendation.
- 12. Current scoping work is looking at:
  - terms of reference and guiding principles;

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

- representation e.g. government agencies, communities, Mana Whenua;
- options for nomination processes;
- · selection and recruitment processes;
- a wider Collective Impact Board Support Network; and
- timing for the establishment of the Collective Impact Board.
- The Ministry of Social Development is working to have the Board operational by the end of May 2021.

# Implementing a trial to support young children to improve their self-regulation, resilience, and social skills

- 14. The Ministry of Education received \$5.243 million for the 18 months from December 2020 to test a scaled-up version of a play-based social and emotional development programme for children aged zero to six years, in order to improve their self-regulation, resilience and social skills. The funding provides for six months of policy development, followed by a 12-month trial commencing mid-2021, involving 2,500 children in around 70 early-learning services.
- 15. This trial supports children from deprived and high-stress environments, who are shown to require support to develop self-regulation. The trial will allow for the development of progress and practice tools to support kaiako understanding and support of children's development of key skills in urban and rural communities and different types of early-learning services.
- 16. Since December, the Ministry of Education has been conducting market research and has met with a potential provider to explore capability to deliver this work.
- 17. This programme also gave an additional \$100,000 to allow the Ministry of Education to continue work with minority ethnic communities in Christchurch to equip and empower parents, families and communities to champion their children's education. This work is progressing well.
- 18. These initiatives were supported in line with recommendation 36.

#### Establishing the New Zealand Police programme Te Raranga, The Weave

19. Te Raranga establishes a structured programme to drive improvements in frontline practice to identify, record, and manage hate crime. The intent is to deliver a service that: reduces incidents of hate crime and supports those impacted by the hurt of hate crime; lifts NZ Police response through the weaving together of lived experience, systems and training design; and provides access and support to a restoration process for those impacted by hate crime. This initiative is connected to recommendation 42.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

- 20. Te Raranga will receive \$10.41million over the four years from July 2021, and is being established through NZ Police baselines in the interim. NZ Police have defined their initial programme scope, structure and work plan, and held an engagement hui with internal stakeholders to capture all work currently underway.
- 21. Prior to 1 July 2021, NZ Police will undertake recruitment of programme team staff, engage with stakeholders to refine the programme of work with their input, and progress training to improve capability.

# Strengthening the capacity of the Human Rights Commission to respond to hate speech, racism and discrimination

22. This initiative provides \$5 million over two years to strengthen the Human Rights Commission's capacity to respond to hate speech, racism and discrimination. The Commission is in the process of planning and developing a work programme for this. The Commission is engaging with the communities to better understand what particular aspects would be most useful and appreciated by them.

# Early intervention to prevent terrorism and violent extremism through the Multi-Agency Coordination and Intervention Programme

- 23. The Multi-Agency Coordinated Intervention Programme (MACIP) is a targeted prevention effort that aims to reduce the likelihood of harm from violent extremism through tailored multi-agency and community interventions proportionate to risk, needs and circumstance. The programme is led by NZ Police.
- 24. Establishment of a governance group for the group, including Chief Executives of relevant agencies, is underway. A project manager has been recruited and commenced work, and recruitment for further roles is in train. MACIP will receive \$8.44 million of funding over the four years from July 2021, prior to which work is being undertaken from within NZ Police baselines.

#### Community engagement - what we are hearing

25. Promoting and ensuring New Zealand communities' safety and wellbeing lies at the heart of the Government's response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry. To understand community priorities, the Government has been engaged in a nation-wide programme of hui to listen to community concerns and ensure that the Government's response and implementation plan aligns with communities' most pressing needs.

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RESTRICTED

- 26. In the immediate aftermath of the public release of the RCOI report, engagement was appropriately prioritised with affected whānau and survivors in Christchurch in acknowledgement of the deep hurt and pain experienced by the Christchurch Muslim community. In January and February 2021 this engagement extended to Muslim and panethnic/multi-faith communities across New Zealand. Over 30 community hui have now taken place across the country.
- 27. The community hui have been led by Minister Little and Minister Radhakrishnan, with support from local Members of Parliament from both sides of the House. Officials from a wide range of agencies including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Office of Ethnic Communities, NZ Security Intelligence Service, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (Immigration NZ), NZ Police and the Ministry of Education have also participated in and offered support at these events.
- 28. Based on feedback at the hui and through online RCOI response feedback forms, key community priorities include:
  - a) the provision of ongoing long-term support to the affected whānau and survivors of the 15 March attack:
  - b) Government accountability to communities and a desire for transparency and mechanisms for community involvement in policy development;
  - c) the need for a long-term work programme on social cohesion that involves all communities to bring about societal change;
  - d) educational reform to address existing structural racism through curriculum change and improving the cultural competency of teachers;
  - e) improving the safety of New Zealanders, including through firearms control as well as hate speech/crime legislation;
  - f) increasing the diversity and cultural competency of the public sector workforce;
  - g) a well-resourced Ministry of Ethnic Communities;
  - h) addressing the role of media in perpetuating discrimination and racism;
  - i) increasing resources to communities to enable their full participation in civil society and to allow for community-led solutions; and
  - j) addressing employment discrimination and providing more employment pathways for ethnic communities.
- 29. A summary table of this feedback is provided in Attachment A, and a public report summarising this feedback will be produced once this round of hui has concluded.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

30. There is a need to pivot now from listening to community priorities to taking action, noting that some recommendations can be implemented quickly and that others will take more time. Conversations with communities who have not yet been formally consulted with will continue while this work progresses.

# Establishing the Implementation Advisory Oversight Group is a first priority

- 31. A transparent, trusted and effective Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (IOAG) will underpin our ability to create an informed overarching RCOI response work programme. The IOAG is a crucial part of communities feeling that they have the ability to be involved in the response to the Royal Commission from the beginning, instead of being provided with 'fait accompli' solutions. From feedback, this group is seen as key to holding the Government to account.
- 32. Minister Little, as the Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's RCOI Response, has agreed that the IOAG will take the form of a Ministerial Advisory Group ('the Group') with a focus on programme oversight (rather than governance), and the provision of contestable advice on the design and implementation of the Government's response 'as a whole' to the Lead Coordination Minister.
- 33. As a Ministerial Advisory Group, the Group will report directly to the Lead Coordination Minister and will have no decision-making role or accountability, or formal powers to direct those agencies with responsibilities for implementing RCOI recommendations. That function remains the purview of Ministers directly. This relieves Group members of any risk of legal accountability associated with the decisions made by the responsible Minister. Care will be needed to ensure there is a clear understanding in the public that the Group is advisory only.
- 34. The Group will not be the only mechanism through which communities can engage in the RCOI response. However, the Group will include a high level of community representation, and is therefore likely to have a strong interest in tracking the progress of the overall RCOI response engagement strategy. The initial Terms of Reference will identify the development and implementation of the Government's response as a key focus for the Group.
- 35. The RCOI recommended that the Group include a cross-section of New Zealand communities, and should include representation from civil society, local government, the private sector, affected whānau, survivors and witnesses, and the RCOI Muslim Community Reference Group. In addition, we would look for iwi/Māori representation, and at least one academic while considering that the IOAG would benefit from representation from a number of sectors of society, notably women and youth. Broad representation will be critical to ensuring that New Zealanders have confidence in the Group, the policy outcomes associated

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

- with the response are the best they can be, and in building social license that endures beyond the RCOI response.
- 36. The Lead Coordination Minister will appoint the Chair/s, and a public nomination process will be used to identify other potential Group members, likely followed by a candidate selection process to ensure the Group comprises a diverse range of members with the requisite skills. We will need to give further thought to how we balance the required breadth of representation with the need to support the Group to function efficiently. Group members are likely to have work, family and other community commitments so the burden placed on them must be carefully managed.
- 37. The Group will require strong secretariat support and administration support to ensure the Group can be established, supported and operate in a manner which aligns with the principles of the Government's response. Officials are currently considering establishment and resourcing options (e.g. independent secretariat or one hosted by DPMC or another agency). Specialist recruitment support is also been considered to assist with the nominations, selection and invitation of membership process (e.g. recruitment run through an independent third party or through Government).
- 38. There will be costs associated with the establishment and operation of the Group and the Secretariat and further work is being undertaken to determine these. Work is also beginning to develop a draft terms of reference and to identify next operational steps.

# The 1 March Cabinet paper contains updates on all initiatives, recommendations, and initial advice on the sequencing of work

- 39. Officials are currently drafting a Cabinet paper to report back on the status of the 12 funded initiatives as well as to provide advice on a longer-term programme of work. The paper will be considered by Cabinet Business Committee on 1 March and by Cabinet on 8 March.
- 40. The paper is currently drafted in four sections:
  - a) what we have heard from communities;
  - b) updates on high-priority recommendations (the advisory group) and phasing of other initiatives (national security and social cohesion strategies);
  - c) report-back on the 12 initiatives announced in December 2020; and
  - d) an update on all 44 of the Royal Commission's recommendations.
- 41. Based on community feedback and Government principles for the RCOI response, officials advise prioritising work that focuses on:
  - a) support to affected communities;

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

- b) arrangements that underpin the Government's delivery of the RCOI response (Lead Coordination Minister, Implementation Oversight Advisory Group); and
- c) gaps to be plugged immediately, including firearms licensing work.
- 42. Recommendations on social cohesion (recs 28-42) and New Zealand's counter-terrorism effort (recs 1-18) will require significant planning and resourcing, as well as community input to implement. It is suggested that these be carried out in the medium to longer term once the IOAG, among other groups, are established. This broad sequencing of work is shown in Attachment B.

	Attachments:		
	Attachment A:	RESTRICTED	Key Themes from Regional Hui
	Attachment B:	RESTRICTED	Broad Sequencing of RCOI Work Programme
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GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

## **ATTACHMENT A**

# **Key Themes from Regional Hui**

Topic	Details
Ministry of Ethnic Communities	<ul> <li>Questions around the roles and powers of the new Ministry</li> <li>Whether the upgrade will result in real and genuine change</li> <li>Why the Ministry will be a departmental agency still within DIA (and perceived implications of this)</li> <li>Concerns around the Minister being outside of Cabinet</li> <li>Desire for a strong regional presence for the Ministry</li> <li>Desire for the Ministry to be adequately resourced</li> </ul>
National Security System	<ul> <li>A recurring focus on the RCOI's findings regarding the inappropriate concentration of resources on Islamic extremism and whether/what kind of accountability has been taken for this. Continued mistrust of NZSIS by Muslim communities.</li> <li>Questions around the leadership and cultural competency of the system and its agencies, and if there is a conflict of interest in the concentration leading the resource.</li> </ul>
Response and Accountability	<ul> <li>interest in these agencies leading the response</li> <li>Concerns over RCOI finding no individual/specific agency at fault</li> <li>Frustration at previous engagement being perceived to have had little to no beneficial outcomes, and no visibility of what had been done with feedback provided through engagement</li> <li>The need for clear, measured accountability that is transparent to communities</li> </ul>
Social Cohesion	<ul> <li>The social cohesion work programme needing to involve all in society in order to bring about societal change</li> <li>The need for all New Zealanders to be involved in the RCOI response, not just Muslim communities</li> </ul>
Education Sector	<ul> <li>Concerns around racism and faith-based bullying and discrimination within schools, and lack of cultural competency among teachers to respond effectively</li> <li>The large potential to effect positive change through awareness raising programmes such as education on religion and culture</li> </ul>
Hate Speech Reform	<ul> <li>Questions around the challenges of implementation and timelines for doing so</li> </ul>

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

	<ul> <li>Concern as to how this will be balanced against freedom of speech</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Need for reforms to be able to address both inter and intra community hate speech (and extremism generally, including the rise of Islamophobic Hindutva ideologies)</li> </ul>
Media	<ul> <li>Media playing a key role in perpetrating stereotypes and enabling discrimination</li> <li>The need to address this going forward, with calls for a national conversation or forum</li> <li>Concerns over Broadcasting Standards Authority's powers to challenge offensive or hateful comments broadcasted (particularly when ethnic language media)</li> </ul>
Implementation Oversight Advisory Group	<ul> <li>The need for broad representation, resources and compensation, with clearly defined powers that drive transparency and accountability for Government</li> <li>Requests for representation of youth, women, a mixture of existing organisation representation and non-affiliated community members, and a geographic spread</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Suggestions have also been made for sub-groups, possibly divided by geography or specific interests/themes</li> </ul>
Diversity and Cultural Competency in Government	<ul> <li>Continuing lack of cultural competency and ethnic leadership across agencies (leading to bias, discrimination and system failures for ethnic communities)</li> <li>The need for government to support graduates while going further to improve capability and diversity of current workforce (particularly tiers 1-3 of the public service leadership)</li> </ul>
Sense of Safety	<ul> <li>Persistent feeling of insecurity and inability to live ordinary lives, and the need to see more work done to make them feel safe. Many members discussed still feeling unsafe to visit their masjid and regularly experience racism and hate incidents</li> </ul>
4 m	Recording of ethnicity data for victims of hate crime is a key priority and the need to share this data publicly  Difficulty raising hate speech and community threats with
2000	<ul> <li>Difficulty raising hate speech and community threats with Police, especially where language barriers exist</li> <li>Concerns regarding Government's ability to prevent a further similar terrorist attack occurring again</li> </ul>
Gun reform	<ul> <li>Appreciation for initial gun reforms by the Government after March 15</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Remaining concern that gun reforms haven't gone far enough, and a desire to understand next steps in gun</li> </ul>

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

	reform and how police are addressing illegal firearms in communities
Employment and discrimination	<ul> <li>Experiences of consistent discrimination in the Muslim community and limited opportunities because of their religious attire and names. Women are particularly impacted by this</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Requests for better recognition of both the qualifications of, and the lived experience of, members of ethnic communities to assist with employment discrimination</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Improvements within Government are important, but the private sector also needs to be engaged in reducing discrimination and improving inclusion within employment</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Better support required in supporting employees with faith- based needs in the workplace (such as prayer spaces and breaks coinciding with prayer times), and increased flexibility to take important faith-based or cultural holidays</li> </ul>
Tangata Whenua / Māori	<ul> <li>Questions around how the Government will protect and enable Māori interests when responding to RCOI and how Te Tiriti will be foundational to the response</li> </ul>
Supporting Community Engagement	<ul> <li>Need for community resources to be able to engage with government, and to feel empowered to do so. Strong desire for collaborative approaches and co-design where appropriate</li> <li>Requests for government to use, fund and support existing grassroots initiatives and community programmes where they exist, rather than starting again</li> </ul>
Mental Health	Ongoing trauma of directly affected and wider communities in response to March 15 terrorist incident. Some effects are only evident in the medium to long term, and there is a need to plan for this required support
inge	<ul> <li>Impact of hate incidents, discrimination and bias has ongoing negative affect. Need for specific culturally appropriate mental health support services</li> </ul>
92	<ul> <li>Long term continued adverse impact of viewing of the livestream video</li> </ul>

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES: STATUS UPDATE

# **ATTACHMENT B** 9(2)(g)(i)



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44 Establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group Lead Coordination Minister		43	Ensure a minister is given responsibility and accountability to lead and coordinate the response	Prime Minister
		44	Establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group	Lead Coordination Minister



# **Briefing**

## VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE

To: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister and Minister for National Security and Intelligence CC: 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

Date	2/03/2021	Priority	Urgent
Deadline	5/03/2021	Briefing Number	DPMC-2020/21-596

#### **Purpose**

To provide an additional final submission for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet Budget 2021 initiatives in relation to your National Security and Intelligence portfolio (**Attachments A and B**). It also provides a letter summarising this initiative for you to sign and forward to the Minister of Finance (**Attachment C**).

#### Recommendations

- Note that the Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry's (RCOI) Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques intends to progress the establishment of an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group and a Community Capability-Building Fund from 2020/21.
- Note that the Treasury verbally confirmed this bid was invited by the Minister of Finance and we have submitted a new Budget initiative (ID 13381) into the Budget 2021 process.
- 3. **Note** that the bid includes funding for Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet and Vote Internal Affairs.
- 4. **Note** that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) have agreed to reprioritise expenditure in 2020/21 to meet the establishment costs for these initiatives.

VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE

#### [BUDGET-SENSITIVE]

5. <b>Sign</b> the	letter to the Minister of Fina	nce at Attachment (	C. <b>Y</b>	/ES / NO
Clare	Ward			~\ <sup>0</sup>
Clare Ward Executive Director, Strategy, Governance and Engagement		Rt Hon Jacinda Prime Minister Security and I	r, Minister for Nat	tional
2 March 2021		/2021	illi.	
Contact for tele	phone discussion if requ	uired: Telephone		1st contact
Clare Ward	Executive Director, Strategy, Governance and Engagement	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	✓
Jude Urlich	Director, Organisation Direction and Development	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	
Minister's office	comments:			
□ Noted □ Seen □ Approved □ Needs change □ Withdrawn □ Not seen by Noted Seen Beautiful Seen Beautif	Minister			

VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND

**CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE** 

## VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE

#### **Background**

- As part of the Budget 2021 process, you were invited to submit an initiative in relation to the system response to the RCOI.
- 9(2)(g)(i)
- 3. The initiative relates to Vote Internal Affairs (Community Capability-Building Fund) and Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet (RCOI Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (IOAG)).
- 4. <sup>9(2)(g)(i)</sup>
- 5. The initiative template was submitted to the Treasury on 1 March 2021.

# Funding required to establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group

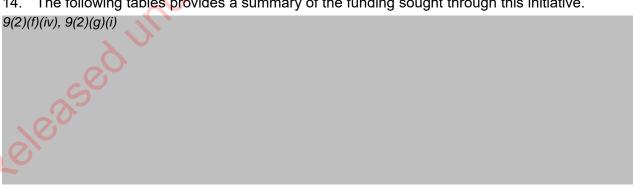
- 6. As mentioned in the Speech from the throne, the commitment to strengthening social inclusion is important context to the Government response to the RCOI, which was tabled on 8 December 2020. The 792 page report is the most comprehensive examination of New Zealand's national security system to date. The Government accepted the Commission's findings and accepted in principle a wide-ranging set of 44 recommendations for changes to the way agencies and the system operate. Recommendation 44 states:
  - a) Establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group that:
    - i) includes representatives of communities, civil society, local government, the private sector, affected whānau, survivors and witnesses and our Muslim Community Reference Group;
    - ii) provides advice to the responsible minister on the design of the government's implementation plan and its roll-out; and
    - iii) publishes its advice to enhance transparency.
- 7. The RCOI highlighted the need for a change in how agencies and the sector engage with the communities they serve. In respect to delivering on recommendation 44, it stated:

VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE

#### **IBUDGET-SENSITIVE**

"It will also mean a substantial commitment of time and resources and perhaps a mindset change. But it will have the advantage that the outcome will have the support of those whose trust is critical to securing a safer and more inclusive New Zealand."

- There will be particular positive impacts by rebuilding trust within ethnic and religious communities through their representatives' active participation in the implementation of the RCOI recommendations. By delivering early on this recommendation, the responsible Minister will benefit from this work as the final delivery of system responses will be informed by these perspectives. This is in addition to usual agency policy development processes where engagement with affected communities occurs. The IOAG will contribute to building trust, and that communities in particular Muslim communities feel, and are, safer and more secure.
- It is proposed that the group will function as a Ministerial Advisory Group, providing advice directly to the Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques.
- 10. Funding to support the establishment of this group was not included in initial Budget submissions.
- 11. This initiative also seeks funding for a Community Capability-Building Fund (CCBF), to be administered by DIA. Community engagement identified that a lack of funding was a common challenge faced by small groups and non-government organisations working on issues relevant to the findings and recommendations of the RCOI. The availability of a CCBF that these groups can access would support individual initiatives and build longterm capability. The fund is proposed to be accessed by application to ensure it is accessible to all groups, including Muslim communities.
- 12. The function of the IOAG and the associated CCBF relate to building community capability. These are complementary to the initial system response for which funding has already been sought through Budget 2021 and it is proposed that the additional funding required for this group is submitted as a separate initiative.
- 13. DPMC and DIA have agreed to reprioritise expenditure in 2020/21 to meet the establishment costs for these initiatives.
- 14. The following tables provides a summary of the funding sought through this initiative.



VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND **CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE** 

#### [BUDGET-SENSITIVE]

9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)

- 15. All funding for the IOAG would be appropriated to the Advice and Support Services multicategory appropriation within Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet, for which you, as Prime Minister, are appropriation Minister.
- 16. **Attachment C** provides a letter to the Minister of Finance seeking approval of this initiative.
- 17. As the funding for the CCBF would be appropriated to Vote Internal Affairs, DIA is briefing the Minister of Internal Affairs and Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector on this initiative today.

#### **Next Steps**

18. If you agree to this new initiative, please sign and send the letter at **Attachment C** to the Minister of Finance.

Attachments:	
Attachment A:	Building Community Trust and Confidence in Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into March 2019 Terrorist Attack: initiative template
Attachment B:	Building Community Trust and Confidence in Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into March 2019 Terrorist Attack: intervention logic
Attachment C:	Letter to the Minister of Finance

Attachment A withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982 (16 pages).

Attachment C withheld in full under sections 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 (2 pages).

VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE

#### **ATTACHMENT B**

**Building Community Trust and Confidence in Response to the Royal** Commission of Inquiry into March 2019 Terrorist Attack: intervention

Released under the Official Information Act, 1989.

VOTE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND **CONFIDENCE BUDGET 2021 INITIATIVE** 

# Building Community Trust and Confidence in Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into March 2019 Terrorist Attack (ID 13381)

#### Context



- The <u>RCOI report</u> was tabled on 8
   December 2020 and is the most comprehensive examination of New Zealand's National Security System to date.
- The Government accepted the Commission's findings and accepted in-principle the 44 recommendations for changes to the way agencies and the system operate. There are high public expectations of a rapid response from the Government and the system.
- This commitment was also affirmed in the <u>Labour Party Manifesto</u> and Speech from the Throne.
- The RCOI report recommends (recommendation 44) that the Government establish an Implementation Oversight Advisory Group (IOAG) that:
- a) Includes representatives of communities, civil society, local government, the private sector, affected whānau, survivors and witnesses, and the RCOI Muslim Community Reference Group;
- Provides advice to the responsible ministers on the design of the Government's implementation plan and its roll-out; and
- c) Publishes its advice to enhance transparency.
- Engagement with Muslim and panethnic/multi-faith communities identified challenges and lack of capability to engage with Government
- Deferral to future budgets is not likely to deliver a timely system response and will lead to known system risks unable to be fully addressed.
- DPMC and DIA have limited capacity to fund new functions.

#### Intervention





- Recommendation 44 of the RCOI report is clear the primary function of IOAG is to provide independent advice to Ministers. The report recommended that the IOAG's scope be limited to acting as a provider of contestable advice on the design and implementation of the Government's response 'as a whole'. The role would be held at this high level and focus on identifying gaps, challenges and opportunities existing across the entire Government work programme. The IOAG would provide programme oversight, offer constructive advice, and ensure Ministers receive a range of perspectives, which would then be published publicly.
- The establishment of an IOAG provides an opportunity to build further credibility and effectiveness into the response, and is a means by which trust can be built between the community and Government.
- A transparent, trusted and effective IOAG, as outlined at recommendation 44, will underpin our ability to create an overarching Royal Commission response implementation work programme. Ministers have agreed to a phasing of recommendations, with nearterm priority around recommendation 44 in order to help facilitate the broader response and agencies' work.
- A contestable Community Capability-Building Fund (CCBF) would support groups to commit to engaging with Government to address the RCOI recommendations in a timely manner

#### Outputs





# Output 1: DPMC establishes an IOAG (funded within baseline)

- form establishment project
- conduct nominations process, develop operational procedures for IOAG, schedule of meetings and processing system
- recruiting Secretariat to administer

# Output 2: DPMC manages IOAG (funding sought)

- recommendations including work on the following areas of focus:
- member and external communications including developing web content for IOAG work
- implementing operational procedures including arranging meetings, briefing Chair and members, logistics
- supporting Chair with provision of advice to the responsible Minister.

# Output 3: DIA establishes an CCBF (funded within baseline)

- forming establishment project team to confirm funding criteria, application screening and processing system
- recruiting funding team to administer CCBF.

# Output 4: DIA manages CCBF (funding sought)

- opening funding round
- assessing and making funding decisions.

#### Outcomes



- People in New Zealand are, and feel, resilient, safe and secure, have equal access to opportunities and do not experience discrimination.
- Rebuilding trust within ethnic and religious communities
- Government continues to benefit from ideas and initiatives from community organisations
- Resilient community organisations, continue to support their communities



# **Aide-Memoire**

# CABINET DISCUSSION – ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT BACK

Date	5/03/2021	Priority	High
Deadline	8/03/2021	Briefing Number	2021NSP/068

#### **Purpose**

This briefing provides background to support your attendance during the Cabinet discussion on the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Terrorist Attack on Christchurch Mosques (the Royal Commission) report-back on 8 March 2021.

#### Recommendations

- 1. Note the content of this briefing
- 2. **Agree** to seek amendment to the date for nominations for the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group

sed under the	
Andy George	Hon Andrew Little
Acting Deputy Chief Executive	Lead Coordination Minister for the
National Security Group	Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist
	Attack on the Christchurch Mosques
/2021	//2021

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#### Contact for telephone discussion if required:

Name	Position	Telephone		1st contact
Tony Lynch	Deputy Chief Executive, National Security Group	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	✓
9(2)(a)	Senior Advisor, National Security Policy Directorate	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	O

Minister's office comments:	
<ul> <li>□ Noted</li> <li>□ Seen</li> <li>□ Approved</li> <li>□ Needs change</li> <li>□ Withdrawn</li> <li>□ Not seen by Minister</li> <li>□ Overtaken by events</li> <li>□ Referred to</li> </ul>	Information Y
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#### **Purpose**

1. This briefing provides background to support your attendance during the Cabinet discussion on the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Terrorist Attack on Christchurch Mosques (the Royal Commission) report-back on 8 March 2021.

#### **Background**

- 2. This paper provides the third opportunity for Cabinet to discuss the report of the Royal Commission, and the first since you were announced as Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques on 8 December 2020.
- 3. This paper responds to a direction from Cabinet in December 2020, which 'directed officials to report back in February 2021 on the implementation of the funded initiatives, as well as initial advice on a longer-term programme of work that will aim to meet the overall intent of the Royal Commission's recommendations' [CAB-20-MIN-0516 refers].
- 4. There are 12 Ministers and 19 agencies with a direct interest in the Royal Commission, and Ministers retain responsibility for elements relating to their portfolios. Accordingly, this discussion provides an opportunity for Ministers to be briefed on the extent of work underway across Government in response to the Royal Commission. It also provides an opportunity discuss next steps in implementing the Government's Royal Commission response.

#### Feedback from nationwide hui

- A substantial part of the focus since the December Cabinet meeting has been on the nationwide hui, led by you and Minister Radhakrishnan. You may wish to update your colleagues on the hui and consistently heard themes, a summary of which is attached at Attachment A.
- 6. The feedback from hui have driven the prioritisation of the forward work programme and the initiatives for which Cabinet approval is being sought. Each of these elements is addressed in turn below.
- 7. A summary of the feedback from the hui will be published, in both English and Arabic, on the DPMC website in the coming weeks. A copy of the feedback report will be provided to you for your review prior to publishing.

#### Implementation Oversight Advisory Group

8. DPMC will separately provide advice to your office on the privacy, security and credibility considerations around the nominations process for the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group.

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12. Pre-nomination work, including letting communities know when nominations will open and how they will be able to apply, can take place over the coming weeks.

#### **Community Capacity Building Initiative Fund**

- 13. DPMC have met with the Department of Internal Affairs and the Office for Ethnic Communities for an initial discussion on the criteria and process for formally establishing the Community Capacity Building Initiative Fund.
- 14. Work over the coming weeks will confirm the final name for the fund, as well as detail on how and when community organisations can apply. We expect that the fund can be announced from the week of 15 March, with applications able to be formally received from May 2021.
- 15. The intervening time will be used to ensure that the criteria and process for accessing the fund are clear to communities, with information available in a variety of languages, and through multiple channels.
- 16. DPMC will continue to update you on progress with the Fund in our regular meetings.

#### Next steps

- 17. The Monday following the Cabinet discussion is the two-year anniversary of the terrorist attack. We expect that there will be extensive community interest in what Government has changed and achieved since March 15 during this time. Officials are preparing both proactive and reactive communications material for your and the Prime Minister's use, and they will discuss these with you at the meeting on 9 March 2021. Proposed talking points are at Attachment B.
- 18. The Cabinet paper seeks Cabinet endorsement of quarterly reports to responsible Ministers, and a further Cabinet discussion before the end of 2021. We will work with your office to schedule these reports-back for the remainder of the year.

Attachments:		
Attachment A	In Confidence	Key themes from regional hui
Attachment B	In Confidence	Talking points

#### ATTACHMENT A: KEY THEMES FROM REGIONAL HUI

Topic	Details			
Ministry of Ethnic Communities	<ul> <li>Questions around the roles and powers of the new Ministry</li> <li>Whether the upgrade will result in real and genuine change</li> <li>Why the Ministry will be a departmental agency still within DIA (and perceived implications of this)</li> <li>Concerns around the Minister being outside of Cabinet</li> <li>Desire for a strong regional presence for the Ministry</li> <li>Desire for the Ministry to be adequately resourced</li> </ul>			
National Security System	<ul> <li>A recurring focus on the Royal Commission's findings regarding the inappropriate concentration of resources on Islamic extremism and whether/what kind of accountability has been taken for this.</li> <li>Continued mistrust of NZSIS by Muslim communities.</li> <li>Questions around the leadership and cultural competency of the system and its agencies, and if there is a conflict of interest in these agencies leading the response</li> </ul>			
Response and Accountability	<ul> <li>Concerns over Royal Commission finding no individual/specific agency at fault</li> <li>Frustration at previous engagement being perceived to have had little to no beneficial outcomes, and no visibility of what had been done with feedback provided through engagement</li> <li>The need for clear, measured accountability that is transparent to communities</li> </ul>			
Social Cohesion	<ul> <li>The social cohesion work programme needing to involve all in society in order to bring about societal change</li> <li>The need for all New Zealanders to be involved in the Royal Commission response, not just Muslim communities</li> </ul>			
Education Sector	<ul> <li>Concerns around racism and faith-based bullying and discrimination within schools, and lack of cultural competency among teachers to respond effectively</li> <li>The large potential to effect positive change through awareness raising programmes such as education on religion and culture</li> </ul>			
Hate Speech Reform	<ul> <li>Questions around the challenges of implementation and timelines for doing so</li> <li>Concern as to how this will be balanced against freedom of speech</li> <li>Need for reforms to be able to address both inter and intra community hate speech (and extremism generally, including the rise of Islamophobic Hindutva ideologies)</li> </ul>			

Media	<ul> <li>Media playing a key role in perpetrating stereotypes and enabling discrimination</li> <li>The need to address this going forward, with calls for a national conversation or forum</li> <li>Concerns over Broadcasting Standards Authority's powers to challenge offensive or hateful comments broadcasted (particularly when ethnic language media)</li> </ul>
Implementation Oversight Advisory Group	<ul> <li>The need for broad representation, resources and compensation, with clearly defined powers that drive transparency and accountability for Government</li> <li>Requests for representation of youth, women, a mixture of existing organisation representation and non-affiliated community members, and a geographic spread</li> <li>Suggestions have also been made for sub-groups, possibly divided by geography or specific interests/themes</li> </ul>
Diversity and Cultural Competency in Government	<ul> <li>Continuing lack of cultural competency and ethnic leadership across agencies (leading to bias, discrimination and system failures for ethnic communities)</li> <li>The need for government to support graduates while going further to improve capability and diversity of current workforce (particularly tiers 1-3 of the public service leadership)</li> </ul>
Sense of Safety	<ul> <li>Persistent feeling of insecurity and inability to live ordinary lives, and the need to see more work done to make them feel safe. Many members discussed still feeling too unsafe to visit their masjid and regularly experience racism and hate incidents</li> <li>Recording of ethnicity data for victims of hate crime is a key priority and the need to share this data publicly</li> <li>Difficulty raising hate speech and community threats with Police, especially where language barriers exist</li> <li>Concerns regarding Government's ability to prevent a further similar terrorist attack occurring again</li> </ul>
Mental Health	<ul> <li>Ongoing trauma of directly affected and wider communities in response to March 15 terrorist incident. Some effects are only evident in the medium to long term, and there is a need to plan for this required support</li> <li>Impact of hate incidents, discrimination and bias has ongoing negative affect. Need for specific culturally appropriate mental health support services</li> <li>Long term continued adverse impact of viewing of the livestream video</li> </ul>
Gun reform	<ul> <li>Appreciation for initial gun reforms by the Government after March 15</li> <li>Remaining concern that gun reforms haven't gone far enough, and a desire to understand next steps in gun reform and how Police are addressing illegal firearms in communities</li> </ul>

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#### ATTACHMENT B: TALKING POINTS

#### **Opening Remarks**

- Thank you to all Ministers who have contributed to the Cabinet paper we're discussing
  this morning. The response to the Royal Commission is a true all-of-Government effort,
  as demonstrated by both the breadth and depth of the paper here today. The paper also
  demonstrates the extent of work that is underway, largely in the space of seven weeks
  since the beginning of the year.
- The progress we have made thus far, and where significant efforts remain to be made, will be set in high relief next Monday, which marks two years since the terror attack that led to this Royal Commission. This milestone will be challenging for many members of our Muslim communities in particular, and Government will receive questions about what we have done to lower the risk of a similar event occurring again.
- I'd like to start this morning by providing some feedback on the nationwide hui that Minister Radhakrishnan and I have undertaken over the past months.
- I'd then like to ask Minister Radhakrishnan to update you on the Collective Impact Board and wrap-around services for families and survivors. Minister Radhakrishnan may also wish to speak to the Social Cohesion Work programme that she is leading.

#### **Community Hui**

- Minister Radhakrishnan and I have led over 30 hui across the country since the report
  was released on 8 December 2020. The hui started with an initial focus on the
  Christchurch Muslim communities, and then moved to minority ethnic and inter-faith
  communities across the country, from Auckland to Invercargill.
- Communities were, in general, glad to have the opportunity to discuss their concerns with Ministers. We heard that there is a real desire to make Aotearoa secure, safe, inclusive and accepting for diverse communities. There was overwhelming agreement that there is much work to do to ensure that this can happen.
- We heard that:
  - The education sector plays a critical role in contributing to a socially cohesive New Zealand and teacher cultural competency is a significant concern.
  - There are continued concerns over the Royal Commission of Inquiry's finding that no individual or specific Government agency was at fault for the terrorist attack, and that the Government needs to be accountable and responsive to communities.
  - Safety within New Zealand for those from Muslim and other ethnic communities remains a concern.
  - The media can perpetuate negative stereotypes towards ethnic communities, and this should be addressed going forward.
  - Hate speech and hate crime are experienced by many within the community, and legislative reform is an important tool for change.
  - Many face barriers in accessing services and discrimination in securing employment.

- Any response needs to be inclusive of all-of-society, and these conversations need to be wider than just within Muslim and other ethnic communities.
- There needs to be continued culturally appropriate health and wellbeing support for communities.
- The Government needs to work in partnership with community organisations and community members to effect true change.
- The public service needs to be committed to diversity, and ensure that ethnic voices are heard in policy creation.
- This feedback goes much further than the 44 recommendations in the Royal
  Commission's report, and our work programme must do the same. We have accordingly
  prioritised within this work programme, so that efforts can be concentrated on areas
  which will most directly impact the community, and where changes can be made
  relatively quickly.
- Longer-term, we will look to do a review of our national security policy settings—a
  process to be carried out with communities, foster a new public conversation on national
  security, identify practical actions the public can take and culminate in a strategy for how
  we will pursue national security aims.

[Invite Min Radhakrishnan to make remarks on Collective Impact Board, social cohesion]

#### **Immediate Priorities**

- The Cabinet paper speaks to two initiatives which will be announced relatively quickly; the Implementation Oversight Advisory Group and the Community Capability Building Fund.
- The latter is something that has come very strongly out of meetings with communities, most of whom are very small, volunteer-led organisations, that are struggling to fully engage with Government. My intent is that this fund will allow organisations to more fully engage with Government, in order that we can take advantage of their ideas and expertise to make New Zealand safer.
- The Implementation Oversight Advisory Group is one of the recommendations made by the Royal Commission. The group will be a key source of advice to me as Lead Coordination Minister, and I look forward to the group being established.

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- We will continue to engage with communities and provide further information about the role of the group and its establishment in the interim.
- Overall, the breadth of the Royal Commission response work and the resourcing required to execute it necessarily calls for a phased approach. Here, feedback from communities and the principles we agreed in December continues to drive this work, with top priorities being those directly related to support to affected communities and implementation mechanisms to engage the response and community input.

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