

RCOI Response Steering Group Minutes

Date/Time	14/09/2021, 1.00 – 2.00 pm
Venue	Virtual via Zoom
Chair	Andy George, Strategic Coordinator Counter Terrorism, National Security Group, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)

Item	Topic
1	<p>Welcome, apologies, and introductions and Chair’s update</p> <p>The Chair provided an overview of the purpose of the meeting and framing of the advice to be provided to the Lead Coordination Minister, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">the request from the Lead Coordination Minister to obtain an overview of initiatives and how they relate to the Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCOI) response, dependencies with the work programme, and assurance that initiatives have been subject to collective review;confirming that DPMC will not prioritise initiatives in its advice to the Lead Coordination Minister, acknowledging the role of each portfolio Minister in providing detailed advice to the Minister of Finance;identifying the initiatives that are implementation ready and align with government priorities; andthe next steps to finalise advice to the Lead Coordination Minister by 21 September.
2	<p>Treasury update on budget initiatives</p> <p>The Treasury representative provided an update on the Budget process and on the way in which Treasury and the Minister of Finance will assess initiatives.</p> <p>It is expected that the Minister of Finance will respond to Ministers’ requests for invitation before the end of October.</p>
3	<p>Proposed initiatives – for discussion</p> <p>The meeting discussed agency inputs on initiatives and dependencies with the draft work programme.</p> <p>DPMC National Security Group noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">the system response bid is broad and fits over three categories (“Implementation of the RCOI recommendations”, “Responding to the RCOI intent” and “Related to the RCOI”);the DPMC initiatives represent the cost of responding to the RCOI recommendations – if not funded, this would have implications across all of DPMC’s response work and in particular its coordination function;ongoing funding on the annual hui is needed as it is not currently funded. It was noted there is high public interest in community participation in the hui; andfunding of \$1m a year has been proposed for the research fund to support the National Centre of Excellence, although some academics and international partners have indicated that this may not be sufficient. <p>Ministry of Social Development noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED] <p>NZ Intelligence Community (NZIC) noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">the initiative relating to the review of the Classification System falls under the “Responding to RCOI intent” category rather than directly responding to a recommendation (noting that work to implement recommendation 9 is already underway, but that this initiative would fund further work on simplification of the system); and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">that in general there were no significant dependencies between the NZIC bids and other parts of the response <p>Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">funding is being sought for the diversity and inclusion work that forms part of the response to recommendations 33, 34 and 35. Much of this work was planned prior March 15, 2019 and the delivery of the RCOI report; andfunding is also being sought to support agencies to meet Open Government Partnership commitments (in line with recommendation 38), with the potential for funding to support community engagement pilots as part of the response. <p>A discussion then occurred about the common theme among several initiatives of building engagement capacity and capability in communities and across government, with some initiatives linked to the delivery of certain work streams (i.e. supporting engagement on a particular piece of work) and others focussed on lifting capability more generally. It was agreed that the relevant agencies would meet separately to have a discussion to ensure approaches are aligned.</p> <p>Note: This meeting occurred on 16 September.</p> <p>Police noted that the content of the initiative for recommendation 12 is a preliminary indication only, with the implementation of recommendation 12 likely to involve several agencies and the final design of a reporting function subject to Ministerial decisions.</p> <p>The Ministry of Justice noted that development of initiatives to support policy work to respond to the RCOI is ongoing.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education noted that it is putting up three initiatives.</p>
4	<p>Next steps in budget process</p> <p>DPMC noted that work is underway to brief the Lead Coordination Minister on the initiatives and that following the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">DPMC would update the initiative table and re-circulate to agencies for feedback by Thursday 16 September; andagencies would keep DPMC updated on changes to the bids as much as possible ahead of final letters being delivered to Ministers – noting that advice to the Lead Coordination Minister will indicate that final decisions on the bids will be made by portfolio Ministers.
5	<p>Cabinet report back in late 2021</p> <p>It was noted that work is underway on the Lead Coordination Minister's report back to Cabinet planned for November.</p> <p>DPMC will be testing a draft outline of the paper with the Lead Coordination Minister on 20 September. The paper will provide an update on the response and will seek agreement to a forward work programme (which is currently being reviewed by Kāpuia). Following the Lead Coordination Minister's review of the outline, DPMC will confirm information needs and processes with agencies.</p> <p>Agencies requested an opportunity to provide input on the draft outline – and in particular to indicate whether there are any Cabinet decisions within their work streams that they would seek to include in the paper. DPMC agreed to share the outline for agencies' feedback by Thursday 16 September.</p>
6	<p>Meeting closed</p> <p>The meeting closed at 1.55 pm.</p>