



Meeting of the COVID-19 Ministerial Group

Minute of Decision

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Establishing the Contact Tracing Assurance Committee

The group of Ministers with Power to Act on COVID-19 matters [CAB-20-MIN-0130] convened on 23 April 2020 at 10.30am, and in accordance with their Power to Act:

1 **noted** that on 20 April 2020, Cabinet:

- 1.1 invited the Minister of Health to set up a section 11 Ministerial committee under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, to advise the Minister on implementation of Dr Ayesha Verrall's audit report, including what national changes might be needed to strengthen national contact tracing;
- 1.2 invited the Minister of Health, in consultation with the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, to report to the COVID-19 Ministerial Group on 23 April 2020 with terms of reference for the section 11 Ministerial committee;

[CAB-20-MIN-0175]

2 **noted** that the Minister of Health intends to establish a Ministerial Advisory Committee (the Committee) to advise the Minister on how the Ministry of Health is making improvements to the contact tracing system recommended in Dr Ayesha Verrall's audit report, including advice on any national changes required to strengthen national contact tracing;

3 **noted** that:

- 3.1 it may be appropriate to expand the terms of reference of the Committee after the contact tracing improvements have been made, to examine any system issues which have become apparent as part of the pandemic response;
- 3.2 the Minister of Health will report back to Cabinet on any further steps;
- 3.3 the Privacy Commissioner will be consulted as appropriate as part of the pandemic response;

4 **noted** that appointments will be made through the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee once COVID-19 Ministers have considered the terms of reference, and once the Ministry of Health completes due diligence checks;

5 **noted** the terms of reference for the Committee, attached as Appendix 1 to this paper.

Rachel Hayward
for Secretary of the Cabinet

Distribution:

The Cabinet
Hon James Shaw

Copied to officials via email

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