
From: Ella Bambrough-Copeland on behalf of James Palmer
Sent: Friday, 3 November 2023 3:22 pm
To: All Remote Staff; All RM and NABS managers; All Staff Auckland; All Staff Christchurch; All Staff Gisborne; All Staff Wellington
Subject: Special votes - what's next?

Kia ora koutou

Happy Friday! I wanted to quickly get in touch after the release of final election results, following the official tallying of the 567,000 special votes.

There are lots of interesting results, but at a high level it shows the National Party will need the support of both Act and New Zealand First to govern.

What does this mean for Manatū Mō Te Taiao?

First it means waiting a bit longer to find out who will be our ministers as the three parties negotiate and agree on governing arrangements. This could happen quite quickly – as early as next week. But in the past there have been times when it's taken much longer.

Until the parties can show the Governor General they have the confidence of the House, and she has appointed the Prime Minister, the caretaker administration remains in control of government.

This means we continue to operate under the "[caretaker convention](#)" principles. You can find out more about [what that means for us as public servants](#) here.

As I've said before, a new government will mean a new work programme. This reflects what we're here to do as public servants - serve the government of the day, whatever the shape, in a neutral way.

We are ready

We've begun planning work around the first 100 days of the new government and are ready to brief new ministers and find out more about their agenda for the environment.

Teams have been working on an overview Briefing for Incoming Ministers (BIM) and accompanying documents. These are produced by government agencies every time there is a new minister.

Our new business groups, and senior leadership teams will also help ensure we're in the best position to respond to the incoming government's programme.

Nevertheless, I do want to acknowledge while some of us see change as exciting, others can feel unsettled by it. I commit to keeping you in the loop as much as I can during this time. Don't forget to reach out to your manager if you need any extra support. That's what they're here for.

EOI closes this weekend

Just a quick reminder for directors, chief advisors and heads of, that the closing date for them to submit expressions of interest for the new positions is 11.59pm this Sunday (5 November).

Thanks again team

Kia pai tō koutou rā

James

James Palmer

Secretary for the Environment | Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Taiao

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