

In Confidence

Office of the Minister of Climate Change

Chair, Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee

INTERIM MINISTERIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MĀORI CLIMATE PLATFORM: APPOINTMENTS

Proposal

- 1 This paper outlines my intention to appoint ten members to the Interim Ministerial Advisory Committee (Interim Committee) of the yet-to-be established Māori Climate Platform for terms commencing on the date of appointment and expiring on 1 February 2024, as below.

Name	Designation	Appointment
Dayle Takitimu	Co-chair	Appointment
Mike Smith	Co-chair	Appointment
Lani Kereopa	Member	Appointment
Michael Stevens	Member	Appointment
Jacqui Forbes	Member	Appointment
Veronica Baldwin- Smith	Member	Appointment
David Perenara-O'Connell	Member	Appointment
Nedine Thatcher Swann	Member	Appointment
Terengāteina Boasa-Dean	Member	Appointment
Nicola MacDonald	Member	Appointment

Background

- 2 Cabinet has agreed to establish a Māori Climate Platform (the platform) to support Māori climate action and a Te Tiriti-led approach to an equitable transition for Māori through Aotearoa New Zealand's climate response [MCR-22-MIN-0007 refers]. It will activate community climate action and kaupapa Māori, tangata Māori solutions for climate resilience, and support Māori through the transition to a low-emission economy.
- 3 The platform is being established in two phases to allow for collaboration with Māori. Phase one is the design-phase and will be led by a newly established Interim Committee.
- 4 I have agreed that the Interim Committee should have two key roles:
 - 4.1 a collaborative leadership role, alongside the Ministry for the Environment, to co-design proposals for the platform for consideration

and approval by myself as Minister of Climate Change and Cabinet. The proposals for the platform will include mechanisms to embed Te Tiriti through the climate response and support the allocation of Crown funding for Māori climate action. This is the Interim Committee's primary role and will require significant work throughout the end of 2022 and the first half of 2023; and

- 4.2 an advisory role, providing independent advice to myself and the Climate Response Ministerial Group (CRMG). I also expect that the Interim Committee may work with Climate Change Chief Executives Board to reflect collective views in advice where appropriate.
- 5 The scope of the Interim Committee's proposals and advice is confined to the climate policy response, which is defined as the implementation of the current emission reduction plan and national adaptation plan, and the development of future emission reduction and national adaptation plans.
- 6 The Interim Committee's proposals and advice will be informed by engagement with Māori, including iwi, hapū and other collective representatives. Effective engagement will require members to hold mana and relationships across a diverse range of Māori communities, as well as expertise in climate change impacts and solutions.
- 7 The Interim Committee will deliver their final proposals for the platform's design, including recommendations for Te Tiriti-led partnership and allocation of \$18 million for climate action, by 1 August 2023. Following Cabinet's decision on the recommendations, phase two of the platform will implement the proposals.
- 8 The Interim Committee will continue to provide advice on the priorities for an equitable transition for Māori, and to guide phase two until the expiration of their term.
- 9 I have decided on a final Interim Committee of ten, comprised of two co-chairs and eight members.

Comment

- 10 I intend to appoint the following ten people to the Interim Committee for a term commencing on the date of appointment to 1 February 2024:
 - 10.1 **Dayle Takitimu** (Te Whānau-ā-Apanui, Ngāti Porou) as Co-Chair. Dayle Takitimu is a legal advisor and strategist in indigenous and environmental law, mātauranga Māori, Treaty of Waitangi, and indigenous rights, with specialist expertise in climate change. Dayle has led climate action at whānau, hapū, iwi and national level, and at international fora including the United Nations.
 - 10.2 **Mike Smith** (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahu) as Co-Chair. Mike Smith has more than thirty years involvement in climate education, strategy, and action, both in New Zealand and internationally. Mike's extensive networks,

expertise and experience will enable him to provide a kaumātua presence on the Interim Committee. Mike has an extensive network and has experience in growing mana Māori motuhake, growing leadership in the whenua, and ensuring young people are implementing climate action supported by kaumātua.

- 10.3 **Lani Kereopa** (Ngāti Whakaue ki Ōhinemutu) as a Member. Lani Kereopa is the Climate Change Co-ordinator at Te Arawa Lakes Trust. Her strengths include communication, systems thinking, and understanding the importance of local narratives in contextualising climate change in people's everyday lives. She has a strong understanding of the barriers and opportunities for enabling hapū climate aspirations through local government plans and strategies.
- 10.4 **Michael Stevens** (Ngāi Tahu) as a Member. Michael Stevens will bring an academic perspective and networks to the Interim Committee. He is an historian and uses this lens for helping others contextualise and make sense of complex issues. Michael has a good sense of the detail of climate change and significant lived experience as an active mahinga kai restoration practitioner. Michael's experience of the coastal environment around Bluff supports the geographic diversity and coverage of the Interim Committee.
- 10.5 **Jacqui Forbes** (Ngā Ruahinerangi) as a Member. Jacqui Forbes understands the opportunities and barriers to funding for kaupapa Māori approaches that are focussed on revitalising te taiao. This will provide a significant benefit to the Committee for engagement to develop the platform. Jacqui has a background in education, expertise in mātauranga Māori, and a track record working in Māori businesses. Jacqui established Para Kore, a Māori not-for-profit organisation that delivers an innovative educational programme and service to design waste out of the system. Her current term on the Waste Advisory Board will finish in November 2022.
- 10.6 **Veronica Baldwin-Smith** (Ngāi Tahu) as a Member. Veronica Baldwin-Smith is well connected at marae and community level, with her hapū and iwi, the National Iwi Chairs Forum, and across central and local government. Veronica has both a strategic relationship-based approach and practical problem solving, and she will engage effectively at the interface between te ao Māori and government systems to find consensus where possible. Veronica is an experienced resource management and environmental policy professional, with experience in central and local government, and in consulting to her iwi.
- 10.7 **David Perenara-O'Connell** (Ngāi Tahu) as a Member. David Perenara-O'Connell has worked effectively with central and local government, building frameworks and provoking thought shifts, with a focus on problem solving and an understanding of iwi governance. This will prove valuable for phase one of the platform's establishment. David is an iwi, community development, and policy professional with extensive governance experience, including membership of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi

Tahu and the Land and Water Forum. He is employed by Environment Canterbury to provide executive level leadership on all matters relating to Ngāi Tahu and te ao Māori.

- 10.8 **Nedine Thatcher Swann** (Ngāti Porou) as a Member. Nedine Thatcher Swann has extensive knowledge of Te Tairāwhiti and the impacts of climate change there on Māori land, homes, businesses, and culture. She has been the Chief Executive of Gisborne District Council since 2017. She has a strong understanding of central government policy and its implications at regional and community levels. Nedine is skilled at balancing different values related to tikanga Māori, environmental protection, and social and economic development, and brings an inter-generational lens to her assessment of policy costs and benefits, evidence, and to strategy design and implementation.
- 10.9 **Terengāteina Boasa-Dean** (Ngāi Tūhoe, Kahungunu, Ngāti Toki ki Ātiu-Cook Islands) as a Member. Teina Boasa-Dean is well-regarded across Aotearoa for her expertise in te reo, tikanga and mātauranga Māori. She has an education and science background and has worked in the areas of tribal development and climate change for many years. She has a strong focus on hapū resilience built on healthy land and water and supporting the most vulnerable, including elderly, children, and women. She lives in Rūātoki and is experienced at supporting her community to make practical change that is achievable. She has acted as an advisor to Manaaki Whenua Landcare, AgResearch Institute and is currently on the Minister for the Environment's Waste Advisory Board.
- 10.10 **Nicola MacDonald** (Ngāti Wai, Te Rarawa, Taranaki Iwi) as a Member. Nicola has a governance background. She lives in Auckland, is the Acting Chief Executive of the Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust and was a negotiator during the Ngāti Rehua Treaty Settlement process. Nicola is the Te Pou Taiao Chair for the Tāmaki Makaurau Mana Whenua Forum: the collective group that represents 19 mana whenua and sits alongside Auckland Council to respond on regional matters. Nicola is Chair of the Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland Conservation Board and has worked with many iwi and community groups.
- 11 More detailed information on each candidate is included in the CV Candidate Forms attached.

Representativeness of appointments

- 12 If all ten people are appointed, this will provide for well-balanced Interim Committee. It will be comprised of seven women and three men, provide a diversity of geographic location and tribal affiliations, and an appropriate mix of skills and experience.
- 13 Although well-balanced, all proposed appointees are over 30 years of age. To ensure that rangatahi perspectives are considered, the Interim Committee Terms of Reference will include a requirement to include rangatahi voices in their work and engagement plans.

Remuneration

- 14 The Interim Committee has been assessed as a Group 4, Level 1 body using the Cabinet Fees Framework. My officials did a comparative assessment of similar Group 4 Māori advisory bodies to set appropriate fees for the members.
- 15 Daily fees for co-chairs and members will sit within the Group 4, Level 1 body range for Cabinet fees and will be confirmed through a letter of appointment.
- 16 Advice was sought from the Public Service Commission on fee settings.

Appointment process and consultation

- 17 I can confirm that an appropriate process has been followed for selecting the proposed appointees, in terms of the Public Service Commission appointment guidelines. In summary, that process comprised convening two nominating panels, seeking nominees from my Ministerial colleagues and relevant nominating agencies, interviewing candidates, establishing consistent and clear assessment criteria relevant to te ao Māori and the Government's climate programme, and due diligence checks and probity measures.
- 18 I initially utilised an independent nominating panel (Panel) to ensure that the selection process was robust, transparent, and guided by Māori. The Panel was comprised of Lisa Tumahai as Chair, with Dr Lyn Carter, Hinerangi Edwards and Nadine Hura as members.
- 19 The Panel sought nominations from their networks, and officials sought nominations from relevant Ministers and agencies including Treasury, Ministry for Women, Ministry for Pacific Peoples and Te Puni Kōkiri.
- 20 The Panel established a long list of candidates and made recommendations to support my appointment decisions on co-chairs and members for the Interim Committee. A shortlist of thirteen were interviewed by the Panel and alternative options of ten and seven candidates for appointment were recommended to me.
- 21 On consultation with my Ministerial colleagues, I accepted the recommendation for seven of the recommended appointees and recommendations for co-chairs. Gaps in representation and skills were identified related to:
 - 21.1 representation of Māori communities in areas of greatest risk from the impacts of climate change, such as Te Tairāwhiti
 - 21.2 practical, grassroots experience and who can connect the Crown with their hapū and iwi, and with prominent sectors of the Māori economy; and/or
 - 21.3 representation of urban Māori.

- 22 Subsequently I directed my officials to carry out a second round of nominations, interviews, and assessments to select an additional three candidates, with consideration of these gaps.
- 23 To address these gaps efficiently, nominations for this round were sought from Minister Allan, Minister Henare, Minister Whaitiri, Minister Davis, Minister Mahuta and Minister Jackson. Ministers nominated twelve people, of whom five were interviewed
- 24 The initial Panel were not available to conduct a second round so I utilised a different nominating panel of four senior Māori officials from Te Arawhiti and the Ministry for the Environment. This panel replicated the interview and assessment criteria followed by the original Panel.
- 25 Final deliberation on the three additional candidates included Lisa Tumahai to ensure continuity of process and consideration of group fit for the Interim Committee as a whole.
- 26 An external probity advisor attended all interviews and final deliberations and provided reports for both rounds to confirm the process considered all conflicts of interest and were fair, ethical, and defensible.
- 27 Officials have completed due diligence on all appointees, with the exception of Ms Boasa-Dean and Mike Smith whose information is still being verified by an external provider.
- 28 This process was appropriate because the appointees will advise on important elements of the Crown's climate policy response, including allocation of funding for Māori climate action and an equitable transition for Māori.
- 29 I have worked with the Minister and Associate Minister for Māori Development and the Minister for Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti and their agencies to guide development of the Terms of Reference and appointments process before bringing this paper to the Committee.
- 30 The following agencies have been consulted on the appointments in this paper: Public Service Commission, Treasury, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Te Puni Kōkiri, Te Arawhiti, Ministry for Primary Industries, Ministry of Social Development, Department of Conservation, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Kāinga Ora, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Health, Statistics New Zealand.
- 31 I have also consulted with the following Ministers: Hon Grant Robertson, Hon Kelvin Davis, Hon Chris Hipkins, Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Hon Andrew Little, Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Hon Willie Jackson, Hon Jan Tinetti, Hon Kiri Allan, Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Hon Aupito William Sio, and Hon Meka Whaitiri.

Conflicts of interest

- 32 I can confirm that appropriate enquiries concerning conflicts of interest and suitability of nominees have been carried out, in accordance with the Public Service Commission appointment guidelines, to identify any conflict of interest that could reasonably be identified.

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- 36 In addition, confidentiality and document management protocols will be put in place for all members, and an up-to-date conflict register will be maintained.

Timing and Publicity

- 37 I will announce these appointments once all due diligence and conflicts of interest have been finalised and the appointees have accepted in writing.

Recommendation

- 38 It is recommended that the Committee note my intention to appoint the following individuals as Co-Chairs and Members to the Interim Ministerial Advisory Committee for the Māori Climate Platform, for terms commencing on the date of appointment and expiring on 1 February 2024.

Name	Designation
Dayle Takitimu	Co-Chair
Mike Smith	Co-Chair
Lani Kereopa	Member
Michael Stevens	Member

Jacqui Forbes	Member
Veronica Baldwin- Smith	Member
David Perenara-O'Connell	Member
Nedine Thatcher Swann	Member
Terengāteina Boasa-Dean	Member
Nicola MacDonald	Member

Authorised for lodgement

Hon James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change

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