



Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

Minute of Decision

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Government Response to the Rethinking Plastics Report

Portfolio Associate Environment (Hon Eugenie Sage)

On 5 August 2020, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

- 1 **noted** the recommendations set out in *Rethinking Plastics in Aotearoa New Zealand*, a report, included in Appendix One of the paper attached under SWC-20-SUB-0126, from the panel convened by the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor;
- 2 **agreed** to the response to the *Rethinking Plastics* report (the Government response) as set out in Appendix One to the paper attached under SWC-20-SUB-0126;
- 3 **authorised** the Associate Minister for the Environment (Hon Eugenie Sage) to:
 - 3.1 publicly release the Government response document; and
 - 3.2 approve any minor adjustments required to ensure that the Government response is suitable for public release;
- 4 **agreed** that a cross-agency plastics work programme be established to drive action in line with the Government response, guided by a senior officials group representing the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment, the Ministry for Primary Industries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Statistics New Zealand;
- 5 **noted** that:
 - 5.1 the Ministry for the Environment will carry out engagement with Treaty Partners and key stakeholders to develop a finalised national plastics action plan, based on the indicative draft set out at Appendix Two to the paper attached under SWC-20-SUB-0126;
 - 5.2 in the pre-election period, this will be targeted engagement, with broader engagement carried out post-election, from October 2020;
- 6 **invited** the Associate Minister for the Environment (Hon Eugenie Sage) to report back to Cabinet in December 2020 with proposals for a finalised national plastics action plan, a confirmed government work programme, and appropriate governance arrangements;

- 7 **noted** the updates provided on the kerbside standardisation, recycling labelling and Container Return Scheme co-design project projects in Appendix Three to the paper attached under SWC-20-SUB-0126.

Vivien Meek
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Jenny Salesa
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Tracey Martin
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Aupito William Sio
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Eugenie Sage
Jan Logie, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for SWC

Proactively released