



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Management of Police Checkpoints During Restricted Movements Under Covid-19 Response

Portfolio COVID-19 Response

On 12 July 2021, following reference from the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC):

- 1 **noted** that in May 2021, SWC agreed to matters for inclusion in the COVID-19 Public Health Response Amendment Bill [SWC-21-MIN-0067];
- 2 **noted** that section 22(3) of the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 (the Act) only enables constables to stop a vehicle and this limits Police's ability to effectively implement Orders under the Act that restrict movement;
- 3 **agreed** that enforcement officers, acting under the supervision of a constable, may stop vehicles at roadblocks or checkpoints established for the purpose of enforcing or monitoring compliance with Orders that restrict movement;
- 4 **invited** the Minister for COVID-19 Response to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office for an amendment to the COVID-19 Public Health Response Amendment Bill to give effect to paragraph 3 above;
- 5 **agreed** that the enforcement officers agreed in paragraph 3 above consist only of New Zealand Defence Force personnel, Māori Wardens, nominated representatives of iwi organisations, Pasifika Wardens, or Community Patrollers.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Secretary's note: *This item was held over from SWC on 30 June 2021 to allow time for further consideration. This minute replaces SWC-21-MIN-0100. Cabinet agreed to amend paragraph 5.*