



Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

Minute of Decision

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Regulation of the Chinese Medicine Profession

Portfolio

Health

On 19 May 2021, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the purpose of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 is to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise;
- 2 **noted** that the profession of Chinese medicine poses a risk of harm to the public and that this risk can be mitigated through regulation under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003;
- 3 **noted** that regulating the Chinese medicine profession under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 will better protect the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that Chinese medicine practitioners are competent and fit to practise, and the profession are supportive of regulation;
- 4 **noted** that the Minister of Health (the Minister) was required under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act to consult on the joint proposals to regulate the Chinese medicine profession and there is general support from submitters on the proposal;
- 5 **agreed** that an Order in Council be made under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 to:
 - 5.1 designate the Chinese medicine profession as a health profession;
 - 5.2 establish a new responsible authority under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Chinese Medicine Council of New Zealand, to regulate the Chinese medicine profession, with secretariat support provided (under contract) by the Nursing Council of New Zealand;
- 6 **noted** that the costs of regulation will be borne by the Chinese medicine profession on a cost-recovery basis;
- 7 **noted** that the implementation and ongoing regulation costs will be met by individual Chinese medicine practitioners;
- 8 **noted** that establishing a new responsible authority is the most cost-effective governance model to regulate the profession;

- 9 **invited** the Minister to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the decision in paragraph 5 above;
- 10 **authorised** the Minister to make any minor or technical decisions required to finalise the regulations, in line with the above decisions.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)
Hon Andrew Little
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Jan Tinetti
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Meka Whaitiri

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the SWC Chair
Officials Committee for SWC

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