



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

Portfolio Health

On 9 September 2019, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that in July 2019, Cabinet agreed to establish an independent Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission as an autonomous Crown entity, and agreed to initially establish an interim Commission while legislation to establish the permanent Commission progresses [CAB-19-MIN-0329.01];
- 2 **noted** that the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission will be established under section 11 of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, to provide advice to the Minister of Health on the mental health and wellbeing of New Zealanders;
- 3 **agreed** that the purpose of the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission is to:
 - 3.1 provide independent scrutiny of the government's progress in improving New Zealand's mental health and wellbeing;
 - 3.2 promote collaboration between entities that contribute to mental health and wellbeing;
 - 3.3 develop advice to enable the permanent Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission to make swift progress once it has been established
- 4 **agreed** that the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission will have the following functions and deliverables:
 - 4.1 monitor progress of the government's system transformation response to *He Ara Oranga* and provide advice on and report to the Minister of Health within one year of the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission's establishment;
 - 4.2 develop a draft outcomes and monitoring framework for mental health and wellbeing that would be suitable for the permanent Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission to consider adopting;
 - 4.3 identify any gaps in information required to monitor performance under the draft framework and make recommendations to the Minister of Health on how these could be filled and by whom;

- 4.4 develop a draft work programme and potential operating model for consideration by the permanent Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission;
- 4.5 provide input on the establishment of the permanent Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission, including its roles and powers;
- 4.6 develop and maintain relationships with and between key government and non-government entities that contribute to mental health and wellbeing, including those monitoring or contributing information on aspects of system performance;
- 5 **noted** the draft Terms of Reference for the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission attached to the paper under CAB-19-MIN-0463;
- 6 **authorised** the Minister of Health to finalise the Terms of Reference for the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission, after consultation with the Chair of the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission;
- 7
 - 7.1 **noted** that the Minister of Health intends to submit a paper to the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH) on 11 September 2019 regarding appointments to the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission.
 - 7.2 **authorised** APH to have Power to Act at its meeting on 11 September to take decisions on the paper.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Health