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Cabinet Document Details

Title: **Cabinet Minute CAB-19-MIN-0498: Initiatives Responding to the 15 March Terror Attacks: Additional Funding**

Date: **24 September 2019**

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Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Initiatives Responding to the 15 March Terror Attacks: Additional Funding

Portfolio **Finance**

On 23 September 2019, Cabinet:

Background

- 1 **noted** that \$252.2 million in funding has already been allocated for immediate responses to the 15 March terror attacks;
- 2 **noted** that in June 2019, the Minister of Finance informed Cabinet of a process to consider funding requests related to the 15 March terror attacks, and outlined an expectation that initiatives must:
 - 2.1 directly relate to the terror attacks;
 - 2.2 be urgently required to respond to the terror attacks;
 - 2.3 not be able to be funded from within existing baselines;

[CAB-19-MIN-0281]
- 3 **noted** that thirteen initiatives were submitted through this process seeking ^[33] operating and ^[33] capital funding over the next four years, with an additional initiative seeking \$0.8 million operating being added late in the process;
- 4 **noted** that Cabinet has already agreed to \$8.7 million for mental health and psychosocial recovery, which was originally submitted as an initiative in this process
[CAB-19-MIN-0462];

Management of prisoner mail (Corrections)

- 5 **agreed** to provide funding to the Department of Corrections to implement operational changes for screening prisoners' mail;

- 6 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 5 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Vote Corrections Minister of Corrections				
Departmental Output Expense: Prison-based Custodial Services (funded by revenue Crown)	0.790	-	-	-

Resourcing for the court system (Courts)

- 7 **agreed** to provide additional funding to address pressures on the court system resulting from the trial of the individual accused of committing the 15 March terror attacks;
- 8 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 7 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Vote Courts Minister for Courts Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Courts, Tribunal and Other Authorities Services, Including the Collection and Enforcement of Fines and Civil Debts Services MCA				
Departmental Output Expenses:				
District Court Services (funded by revenue Crown)	1.324	1.168	-	-
Senior Courts Services (funded by revenue Crown)	1.266	0.892	-	-
Specialist Courts, Tribunals and Other Authorities Services (funded by revenue Crown)	0.244	0.198	-	-
Vote Justice Minister of Justice Ministry of Justice - Capital Injection	0.665	-	-	-
Total Operating	2.834	2.258	-	-
Total Capital	0.665	-	-	-

- 9 **directed** the Ministry of Justice to consider the ability for new staff members to provide culturally-appropriate services as part of recruitment under paragraph 7 above;

Education response and recovery from the 15 March terror attacks (Education)

- 10 **agreed** to provide additional funding to the Ministry of Education for support to staff and students affected by the 15 March terror attacks;

- 11 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 10 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Education Minister of Education	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Outcomes for Target Student Groups MCA				
Non-Departmental Output Expense:				
Students Attendance and Engagement	0.167	0.083	-	-
Departmental Output Expense:				
Support and Resources for Education Providers (funded by revenue Crown)	1.033	0.517	-	-
Total Operating	1.200	0.600	-	-

Support and services for victims of the 15 March terror attacks (Justice)

- 12 **agreed** to provide additional funding for services and grants provided by Victim Support resulting from increased demand following the 15 March terror attacks;
- 13 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 12 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Justice Minister of Justice	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:				
Support and Assistance provided by Victim Support to Victims of Crime	2.010	-	-	-
Non-Departmental Other Expense:				
Victims' Services	4.330	-	-	-
Total Operating	6.340	-	-	-

- 14 **agreed** to establish a tagged operating contingency of up to the amount as follows in Vote Justice, for draw down in the event that funding provided to the Victims' Services appropriation in paragraph 13 above is not sufficient to cover all grants under the Victim Assistance Scheme:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Victim Assistance Scheme – Tagged Operating Contingency	4.680	-	-	-

- 15 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and Minister of Justice jointly to draw down the tagged operating contingency funding in paragraph 14 above (establishing any new appropriations as necessary) **subject to** updated cost estimates of Victim Assistance Scheme grants;
- 16 **agreed** that the tagged operating contingency in paragraph 14 above expire on 30 June 2020;

17 **directed** the Ministry of Justice to report to the Minister of Finance and Minister of Justice on options to ensure services delivered by Victim Support are high quality and fit for purpose, [33]

Safer Communities Fund (Community and Voluntary Sector)

18 **agreed** to establish a contestable fund for at-risk communities to upgrade their security arrangements, subject to the development of the process and criteria for accessing this fund;

19 **agreed** that priority for funding from the fund established by paragraph 18 above be given to security upgrades for the two mosques which were targeted in the 15 March terror attacks;

20 **agreed** to add the following category to the multi-category appropriation “Community Funding Schemes” within Vote Internal Affairs:

Title	Type	Scope
Safer Communities Fund	Non-Departmental Other Expense	This category is limited to providing grants for initiatives to provide increased security for at-risk communities against hate crimes and terrorism.

21 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 18 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Internal Affairs Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Community Funding Schemes MCA				
Non-Departmental Other Expense:				
Safer Communities Fund	7.000	-	-	-

22 **agreed** that, should the Department of Internal Affairs require additional departmental funding to administer the Safer Communities Fund, up to two and a half percent of the funding in paragraph 21 above can be subject to a fiscally neutral adjustment at a baseline update;

Management of the 15 March terror attacks accused (Corrections)

23 **agreed** to provide additional funding to the Department of Corrections for increased security measures responding to the different needs and risks posed by the individual accused of committing the 15 March terror attacks;

- 24 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 23 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Corrections Minister of Corrections	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expense: Prison-based Custodial Services (funded by revenue Crown)	1.928	1.661	-	-

- 25 **invited** the Minister of Corrections to report back to Cabinet on the operating model used for the individual accused of the 15 March terror attacks and the ongoing level of funding required before the end of the 2020/21 financial year;

Increased investment in ethnically diverse communities (Ethnic Communities)

- 26 **agreed** to increase funding for the Ethnic Communities Development Fund **subject to** the Office of Ethnic Communities reviewing the parameters of the Ethnic Communities Development Fund;
- 27 **agreed** to establish a tagged operating contingency of up to the amount as follows in Vote Internal Affairs, to provide for the decision in paragraph 26 above:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Ethnic Communities Development Fund – Tagged Operating Contingency	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000

- 28 **authorised** the Minister for Ethnic Communities, the Minister of Internal Affairs, and the Minister of Finance jointly to draw-down the tagged operating contingency funding in paragraph 27 above (establishing any new appropriations as necessary) **subject to** the review agreed in paragraph 26 above;
- 29 **agreed** that the tagged operating contingency in paragraph 27 above expire on 30 April 2020;

Countering online violent extremist content

- 30 **agreed** to increase funding to counter online violent extremist content and support the Christchurch Call by:
- 30.1 investigating and prosecuting the hosting and sharing of extremist content;
 - 30.2 review of policy settings to prevent online harm;
 - 30.3 increasing the classification of objectionable publications;

- 31 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 30 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Internal Affairs Minister of Internal Affairs	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Regulatory Services MCA				
Departmental Output Expense:				
Regulatory Services (funded by revenue Crown)	2.378	3.532	3.550	3.612
Policy Advice MCA				
Departmental Output Expense:				
Policy Advice – Internal Affairs (funded by revenue Crown)	0.363	0.532	0.542	0.552
Non-Departmental Output Expense:				
Classification of Films, Videos and Publications	0.674	0.468	0.468	0.468
Total Operating	3.415	4.532	4.560	4.632

Management of leave movements (Police)

- 32 **agreed** to provide additional funding to cover increased costs from leave management movements for the New Zealand Police as a result of operational changes following the 15 March terror attacks;
- 33 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decision in paragraph 32 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

Vote Police Minister of Police	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Departmental Output Expenses:				
General Crime Prevention Services (funded by revenue Crown)	0.413	-	-	-
Specific Crime Prevention Services and Maintenance of Public Order (funded by revenue Crown)	0.408	-	-	-
Police Primary Response Management (funded by revenue Crown)	1.147	-	-	-
Investigations (funded by revenue Crown)	0.974	-	-	-
Case Resolution and Support to Judicial Process (funded by revenue Crown)	0.354	-	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services MCA				
Departmental Output Expenses:				
Ministerial Services (funded by revenue Crown)	0.002	-	-	-
Policy Advice (funded by revenue Crown)	0.008	-	-	-
Total Operating	3.306			

General recommendations

- 34 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations and departmental capital injections for 2019/20 above be included in the 2019/20 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply;
- 35 **noted** the total fiscal impact of the nine initiatives responding to the 15 March terror attacks, as outlined below:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 & Outyears
Operating Balance and Net Core Crown Impact	35.493	13.051	8.560	8.632
Net Core Crown Debt Only Impact	0.665	-	-	-
Total	36.158	13.051	8.560	8.632

- 36 **agreed** that the operating expenses incurred and the tagged operating contingencies established above be charged against the between-Budget contingency established as part of Budget 2019;
- 37 **agreed** that the departmental capital injections incurred above be charged as a pre-commitment against the multi-year capital allowance;
- 38 **noted** that further funding requests related to the 15 March terror attacks should seek funding through Budget 2020, unless there are exceptional circumstances which mean that funding is urgently required before Budget 2020;
- 39 **noted** that the Minister of Finance, in consultation with relevant portfolio Ministers, will develop an announcement plan for these initiatives.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

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Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Corrections
Minister of Finance
Minister of Education
Minister of Police
Minister for Ethnic Communities
Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector