

The Treasury

New Zealand Sovereign Green Bonds Programme Information Release

November 2022

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No information has been withheld.

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Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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Approving the New Zealand Sovereign Green Bond Framework

Portfolio **Finance**

On 31 August 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV):

- 1 **noted** that on 1 November 2021, the Cabinet Business Committee agreed to the establishment of a sovereign Green Bond Programme, which will allow the Crown to issue New Zealand Government Green Bonds [CBC-21-MIN-0119];
- 2 **agreed** to the New Zealand Sovereign Green Bond Framework (the Framework), attached as Annex 1 to the paper under DEV-22-SUB-0204, which outlines the design and operations of the New Zealand Sovereign Green Bond Programme;
- 3 **noted** that the Framework covers a broad range of the government expenditures that deliver the government's comprehensive climate and environmental priorities;
- 4 **authorised** the Minister of Finance to make minor and technical amendments to the Framework;
- 5 **noted** that the Treasury will publish the final Framework in September 2022;
- 6 **noted** that New Zealand Debt Management intends to issue New Zealand's first Sovereign Green Bonds before the end of 2022, subject to market conditions;
- 7 **noted** that Green Bonds, alongside standard Nominal Bonds and Inflation-Indexed Bonds, are expected to be an important and enduring part of the New Zealand Government Bond portfolio;
- 8 **agreed** that each agency with current or future expenditure in the New Zealand Sovereign Green Bond Programme provide the Treasury with:
 - 8.1 information about potential new expenditures that may be eligible for inclusion in the Programme;
 - 8.2 quarterly financial information on each expenditure included in the Programme;
 - 8.3 annual impact (outputs and outcomes) information on each expenditure included in the Programme, commencing in 2024;
 - 8.4 information on material risks and issues on each expenditure included in the Programme;

- 9 **directed** the Treasury, in consultation with relevant agencies, to develop the specific monitoring and reporting requirements for expenditures in the Programme;
- 10 **invited** the Minister of Finance to report back to DEV on the progress and key achievements of the Programme in late 2023.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon David Parker
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Kiri Allan
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Hon Phil Twyford
Rino Tirikatene MP
Dr Deborah Russell MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV