



Aide Memoire: Leadership of Government's collective efforts to reduce family violence and sexual violence

Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Justice
(Domestic and Sexual Violence Issues) Jan Logie
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Purpose

1. This note provides supporting information for the Cabinet Paper *Leadership of Government's collective efforts to reduce family violence and sexual violence*, to be considered by the Social Wellbeing Committee of Cabinet (SWC) on 5 September 2018.

Key messages

2. Preventing and eliminating family violence, sexual violence and violence within whānau are one of the greatest opportunities for government to improve wellbeing. Cabinet has previously noted that sustained cross-agency commitment to an integrated response is required to reduce family violence and sexual violence, and that it will take new ways of working across government and with Māori and communities [SWC-18-MIN-0037 refers].
3. You have set an audacious goal for every person, in every family and whānau, in every community and in every organisation to take action so that all New Zealanders can live free from family violence, sexual violence and violence within whānau. To lead the whole-of-government response to deliver this, the paper seeks Cabinet agreement to:
 - establish a dedicated agent in the form of a joint venture of the Social Wellbeing Board to take collective responsibility for the whole-of-government response to reducing family violence and sexual violence;
 - establish an interim Te Rōpū to assist the Crown, Ministers and the joint venture of the Social Wellbeing Board to work in partnership with Māori on an integrated response to family violence and sexual violence; and

[s9(2)(f)(iv)]

Dedicated agent established as a joint venture of the Social Wellbeing Board

4. Cabinet previously agreed to establish a dedicated agent within central government that has a stewardship role for the collective response to family violence and sexual violence [SWC-18-MIN-0037 refers]. This paper recommends the establishment of a joint venture of the Social Wellbeing Board (SWB) to be that dedicated agent – to provide leadership and alignment across government at both the strategic level and at a practical, operational and community level.
5. A joint venture reflects a different mindset and approach that can provide the sustained, cross-agency leadership and commitment necessary to deliver meaningful change. Initially, Ministers will work with the SWB to create a joint venture approach within the current public management system. Proposed reforms to the State Sector Act 1988 will remove some of the obstacles to this way of working and will enable more formal joint venture options.

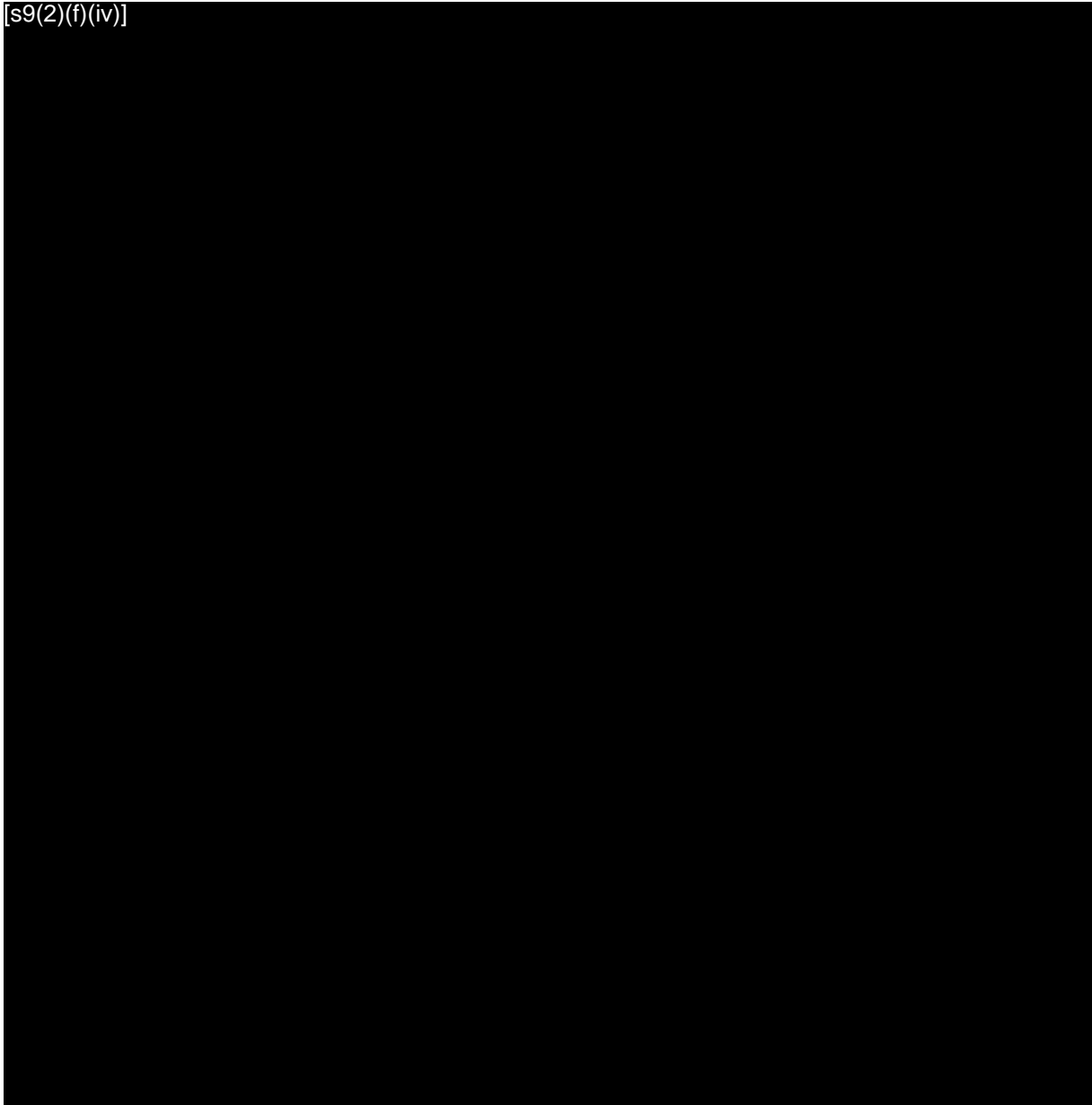
6. The proposed joint venture would have the SWB taking collective responsibility for the whole-of-government work programme. Chief Executives would also be individually accountable for their agencies' contributions to this shared initiative. The Board would appoint a Director and staff to support them to perform the roles and functions that Cabinet has agreed for the dedicated agent. The joint venture would report to the Social Wellbeing Committee, who would also be collectively responsible for this whole-of-government work programme and individually responsible for the contributions of their portfolios and agencies to these shared goals.
7. While the proposed joint venture is a new set of organisational arrangements, it also reflects a different mind-set and new way of working across government. This can deliver the sustained cross-agency commitment to integrated, collective actions to transform our response to family violence and sexual violence – working more effectively across agency boundaries.
8. [s9(2)(f)(iv)] it will also develop an ambitious national strategy and action plan to galvanise our collective efforts – across government and working with whānau Māori and communities – to reduce family violence, sexual violence and violence within whānau.

Interim Te Rōpū to assist the Crown, Ministers and the joint venture

9. Ensuring a partnership with Māori, and representation of a wide range of voices, is a core component of the new way of working. The paper seeks agreement to establish an interim Te Rōpū to work in partnership with the Crown, Ministers and the joint venture to develop the national strategy and action plan, and to provide specific advice to address the disproportionate burden of harm suffered by Māori.
10. The role of the interim Te Rōpū will including working with and advising the joint venture on the whole-of-government response, and ensuring that Māori approaches, whānau-centred thinking and solutions, and strength-based Mātauranga Māori (including te reo and philosophies) are adopted and applied across the work programme.
11. The interim Te Rōpū will also provide key input on the development of advice on the organisational form and terms of reference for an enduring rōpū Māori to support the delivery of the national strategy and action plan to reduce family violence and sexual violence.

[s9(2)(f)(iv)]

[s9(2)(f)(iv)]



Next steps

16. The Cabinet paper will be considered by SWC on 5 September 2018. This Cabinet paper, the previous Cabinet paper and relevant background documents will be proactively released to support public engagement with the new joint venture and the development of a national strategy and action plan.
17. The joint venture will engage with the sector, Māori and the wider public to work in partnership to develop a national strategy and action plan. This engagement will involve two broad stages: targeted engagement and collaboration to develop a draft strategy, working with the interim Te Rōpū and existing stakeholders (before Christmas); and a more formal consultation process on the draft strategy (early in the new year).
18. The aim will be to launch the national strategy and action plan,

[s9(2)(f)(iv)]