



Cabinet

CAB Min (13) 39/9

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Minute of Decision

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Focusing the Department of Internal Affairs' Delivery of its Government ICT Functional Leadership and Information Management Mandate

Portfolios: State Services / Internal Affairs

On 11 November 2013, following reference from the Committee on State Sector Reform and Expenditure Control, Cabinet:

Background

- 1 **noted** that the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) has been reorienting towards a strong technology leadership and information management mandate, and that the Chief Executive of DIA has been directed to provide whole-of-government ICT functional leadership;
- 2 **noted** that in June 2013, Cabinet agreed that the Government Chief Information Officer (GCIO) will have responsibility for coordinated oversight and delivery of system-wide ICT assurance as part of the ICT functional leadership role [CAB Min (13) 20/13];
- 3 **noted** that there are further opportunities to enhance DIA's ability to deliver its ICT functional leadership and information management mandate;

Strengthened Government Privacy Functions

- 4 **noted** that there has been a series of high profile privacy breaches across a number of State Services agencies and that this damages not only the reputation of those agencies but has the potential to undermine citizens' trust in the government's ability to manage personal information;
- 5 **noted** that privacy is integral to effective information management practices and a number of actions have already been taken to lift system level capability and performance in the management of personal information within the state sector;
- 6 **noted** that there is currently no single point of responsibility for all-of-government privacy leadership and assurance and this is a weakness in the government privacy system;

- 7 **noted** that the GCIO, in consultation with the Head of State Services, is intending to establish a Government Chief Privacy Officer with responsibility for privacy leadership across government, including standard setting and development of guidance, capability building within agencies, provision of assurance to government, and system-wide engagement with the Privacy Commissioner and other stakeholders;
- 8 **noted** that the Government Chief Privacy Officer role will commence in the first quarter of the 2014 calendar year;
- 9 **noted** that the proposed roles for the Government Chief Privacy Officer are consistent with the GCIO's existing ICT functional leadership and information management mandate;
- 10 **noted** that no other changes are proposed to the allocation of roles and responsibilities within the privacy system, including to the Ministry of Justice's role in advising on privacy law and monitoring the Office of the Privacy Commissioner;

Civil Defence and Emergency Management

- 11 **noted** that recent reviews of civil defence and emergency management *[withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982]* suggest that a stronger strategic alignment between the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (MCDEM) and the Officials Committee for Domestic and External Security Coordination (ODESC) will strengthen the government's capabilities around risk, resilience and response;
- 12 **noted** that MCDEM operates relatively autonomously within DIA and is not well-aligned to the government ICT functional leadership and information management mandate but is well aligned to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the ODESC leadership role;
- 13 **noted** that a well-managed transition will be important to ensure the ability to respond in the event of an emergency if one were to occur during the transition process;
- 14 **agreed** that MCDEM be transferred from DIA to DPMC from 1 April 2014, **subject to** the transition plan being agreed to by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Civil Defence;
- 15 **directed** the Chief Executives of DPMC and DIA to prepare a transition plan *[withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982]* for the transfer of MCDEM to DPMC;

16 *[withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982]*

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Financial Implications

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[withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982]

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- 21 **noted** that:
- 21.1 the 2013/14 estimates of on-going operating costs for both the proposed transfer of MCDEM and the proposed new Government Chief Privacy Officer role assume a 1 January 2014 commencement date;
 - 21.2 to the extent the commencement dates for either of these is later than 1 January 2014, then the overall 2013/14 operating costs will be commensurately reduced;
- 22 **authorised** the Prime Minister, the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Minister of Civil Defence and the Minister of Finance to agree final changes to relevant vote operating baselines and departmental net assets once final figures have been determined (necessary fiscally neutral transfers and any new funding requirements up to the levels indicated in paragraph 18 above);
- 23 **agreed** that any proposed changes to appropriations and projected balances of net assets for 2013/14 agreed by Joint Ministers under paragraph 22 above be included in the 2013/14 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;
- 24 **agreed** that any expenses and capital expenditure incurred under paragraph 22 above be charges against the between-Budget contingency and Future Investment Fund established as part of Budget 2013, respectively;

Communications

- 25 **noted** that arrangements concerning the announcement of these changes will be confirmed following Cabinet's decisions.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (13) 673

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