



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon David Clark	Portfolio	Digital Economy and Communications
Title of Cabinet paper	Releasing a Discussion Document for a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa	Date to be published	6 May 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
September 2901	Releasing a Discussion Document for a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa	Office of the Minister of the Digital Economy and Communications
23 September 2021	A Digital Strategy for Aotearoa: Release of Discussion Document GOV-21-MIN-0033 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of confidential advice to Government and commercial information.



Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

A Digital Strategy for Aotearoa: Release of Discussion Document

Portfolio **Digital Economy and Communications**

On 23 September 2021, the Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee (GOV):

- 1 **noted** that digital technologies are playing an increasing role throughout all aspects of New Zealand society, and recent experience through COVID-19 has emphasised the scale and pace of this trend;
- 2 **agreed** that, as digital technologies rapidly emerge and evolve, New Zealand must be well positioned and prepared to take advantage of the opportunities and manage the risks that are associated with rapid change;
- 3 **agreed** that, in an increasingly digital world, digital inclusion has become essential for participation in modern society and economy;
- 4 **noted** that a Digital Ministers Group has been established to lead the development of a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa, comprising the Minister of Finance, Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti, Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education), Minister of Research, Science and Innovation, Minister of Education, Minister for the Public Service, Minister Responsible for the GCSB and NZSIS, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Justice, Minister for Trade and Export Growth, Minister for Economic and Regional Development, Minister for the Digital Economy and Communications, and Associate Minister of Statistics;
- 5 **approved** the release of the discussion document titled *Towards a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa*, attached under GOV-21-SUB-0033, to support engagement with New Zealanders on the opportunities and challenges related to digital technology, the existing work underway across government and the priority areas for future focus;
- 6 **agreed** that the proposed vision for a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa is ‘Enabling all of Aotearoa New Zealand to flourish and prosper in a digital world’;

- 7 **agreed** that the proposed key themes for the Digital Strategy be:
- 7.1 Mahi Tika (Trust);
 - 7.2 Mahi Tahī (Inclusion);
 - 7.3 Mahi Ake (Growth);
- 8 **invited** the Minister for the Digital Economy and Communications to report back to GOV following public engagement with a Digital Strategy for Aotearoa;
- 9 **agreed** that the Digital Strategy for Aotearoa must include a strong focus on how digital can support the realisation of the aspirations of Māori and how the Crown and Māori can work together in this area;
- 10 **authorised** the Minister for the Digital Economy and Communications to make minor changes to the discussion document described in paragraph 5 above prior to its public release;
- 11 **noted** that the Digital Strategy for Aotearoa will need to evolve over time as new issues emerge, and that the Minister for the Digital Economy and Communications proposes to convene a multi-stakeholder forum to continue a conversation to ensure that the Strategy can be refreshed in a collaborative and timely manner as appropriate;
- 12 Confidential advice to Government

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon David Parker
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Jan Tinetti
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Deborah Russell, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for GOV