



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Kiri Allan	Portfolio	Regional Development
Title of Cabinet paper	Confirming Membership of Regional Economic Development Ministerial Groups	Date to be published	4 May 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
March 2023	Confirming Membership of Regional Economic Development Ministerial Groups	Office of the Minister for Regional Development
15 March 2023	Confirming Membership of Regional Economic Development Ministerial Groups DEV-23-MIN-0020 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO (please select)

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In Confidence

Office of the Minister for Regional Development
Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Confirming membership of Regional Economic Development Ministerial groups

Proposal

- 1 This paper seeks agreement to update and confirm membership of the Regional Economic Development Ministerial group and the Māori Economic Development Ministerial group.

Relation to government priorities

- 2 This is a routine operational adjustment following changes to Ministerial portfolios.

Background

- 3 The Regional Development portfolio utilises Ministerial groups to make investment decisions on proposals and provide advice on the strategic direction of regional economic development funds.
- 4 The membership of these groups needs to be reconfirmed following the January 2023 Ministerial portfolio changes.

Regional Economic Development (RED) Ministerial group

- 5 RED Ministers make decisions and provide oversight of the Regional Strategic Partnership Fund (RSPF), the Government's \$200 million investment that is supporting regions to achieve their economic potential.

Māori Economic Development Ministerial (MEDM) group

- 6 MEDM was set up to guide the development of the Māori specific investment stream of the RSPF. They are consulted on all RSPF proposals before they are considered for approval [CBC-21-MIN-0013 refers].
- 7 MEDM also drives a broader government view of Māori Economic Development by drawing on members' portfolio responsibilities, backgrounds, and experience.

Membership of the RED Ministerial group

- 8 Following the January 2023 Ministerial portfolio changes, I propose that RED Ministers be confirmed as the:
 - 8.1 Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Kiri Allan (Chair)

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- 8.2 Minister for Social Development and Employment, the Hon Carmel Sepuloni;
- 8.3 Minister of Finance, the Hon Grant Robertson;
- 8.4 Minister for Māori Development, the Hon Willie Jackson; and
- 8.5 Minister for Economic Development, the Hon Stuart Nash.

Membership of the MEDM Ministerial group

- 9 Following the January 2023 Ministerial portfolio changes, I propose that MEDM Ministers be confirmed as the:
 - 9.1 Minister for Māori Development, the Hon Willie Jackson (Co-chair);
 - 9.2 Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Kiri Allan (Co-chair);
 - 9.3 Minister for Māori-Crown Relations, the Hon Kelvin Davis;
 - 9.4 Associate Minister for Māori Development, the Hon Nanaia Mahuta;
 - 9.5 Minister of Conservation, the Hon Willow-Jean Prime;
 - 9.6 Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare), the Hon Meka Whaitiri; and
 - 9.7 Minister of State for Trade and Export Growth, the Hon Rino Tirikatene.

Including the Associate Minister for Māori Development

- 10 Prior to the portfolio changes, Hon Nanaia Mahuta was a member of MEDM by way of the Local Government portfolio. My intention is that the membership of MEDM be broadly retained to ensure minimal disruption to the group's function, and work that is already underway.
- 11 I therefore propose that Hon Nanaia Mahuta be included in MEDM in her capacity as Associate Minister for Māori Development, replacing the Minister of Local Government.

Including the Minister of Conversation

- 12 The Minister of Conservation, the Hon Willow-Jean Prime, has notable experience in Māori and community development. The Conservation portfolio also has direct links to Māori Economic Development through programmes such as Jobs for Nature, which aim to revitalise communities through nature-based employment solutions.
- 13 I therefore propose that the Minister of Conservation be included in MEDM.

Consultation

- 14 The following departments were consulted on this paper: Te Puni Kōkiri, Te Arawhiti, Treasury, Ministry for Primary Industries, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Social Development, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, Department of Conservation.

Proactive Release

- 15 I intend to release this paper proactively. This proactive release would be subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act.

Recommendations

The Minister for Regional Development recommends that the Committee:

- 1 **note** that the Regional Economic Development (RED) Ministerial group makes decisions and provides oversight of the Regional Strategic Partnership Fund (RSPF).
- 2 **agree** to confirm RED Ministerial group members as:
 - 2.1 the Minister for Social Development and Employment;
 - 2.2 the Minister of Finance;
 - 2.3 the Minister for Māori Development;
 - 2.4 the Minister for Regional Development; and
 - 2.5 the Minister for Economic Development.
- 3 **note** that the Māori Economic Development Ministerial (MEDM) group was set up to guide the development of the Māori specific investment stream of the RSPF.
- 4 **note** that MEDM are consulted on all RSPF proposals before they are considered for approval by RED Ministers.
- 5 **note** that MEDM also drives a broader government view of Māori Economic Development.
- 6 **agree** to confirm MEDM members as:
 - 6.1 the Minister for Māori-Crown Relations;
 - 6.2 the Minister for Māori Development;
 - 6.3 the Minister for Regional Development;
 - 6.4 the Associate Minister for Māori Development;
 - 6.5 the Minister of Conservation;

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- 6.6 the Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare); and
- 6.7 the Minister of State for Trade and Export Growth.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Kiri Allan

Minister for Regional Development