



Cabinet Social Outcomes 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.

Carers' Strategy Action Plan: Release for Consultation

Portfolio Associate Social Development and Employment

On 5 November 2025, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan (the Action Plan) has been developed in partnership with relevant agencies, the Carers Alliance, and the Carers' Advisory Group;
- 2 **agreed** in principle to the government commitments outlined in the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan in Appendix 1 attached to the paper under SOU-25-SUB-0149, subject to the report-back referred to in paragraph 4 below;
- 3 **agreed** that the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) will lead a period of public consultation on the draft Action Plan between November 2025 and February 2026, which will include public release of:
 - 3.1 the attached draft Action Plan as agreed in paragraph 2 above;
 - 3.2 additional consultation materials as needed at the discretion of MSD based on the contents of the attached draft Action Plan and the draft Action Plan narrative (e.g., simplified slide decks for public workshops) provided in Appendix 2 to the paper under SOU-25-SUB-0149;
- 4 **invited** the Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment to report back to the Social Outcomes Committee and Cabinet in April 2026 with:
 - 4.1 a final Carers' Strategy Action Plan which considers consultation feedback as per paragraph 3 above and seeks approval for public release;
 - 4.2 advice on ongoing governance structures for the Action Plan.

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
Hon Dr Shane Reti
Hon Mark Mitchell
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Karen Chhour
Hon Penny Simmonds
Hon Scott Simpson

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the Minister of Education
Office of the Minister for Universities
Office of the Minister for Vocational Education
Officials Committee for SOU