

Briefing to incoming Minister for the Climate Change Chief Executives Board

Date Submitted:	10 February 2023	Tracking #: BRF-2678	
Security Level	Policy and Privacy In-Confidence	MfE Priority:	Non-urgent

	Action sought:	Response by:
Rt Hon Chris HIPKINS, Prime Minister	<p>Indicate if you would like meet with officials to discuss your expectations for the Climate Change Chief Executives Board.</p> <p>Circulate this briefing to the Climate Response Ministers Group.</p>	21 February 2023
CC Hon James SHAW, Minister of Climate Change		

Actions for Minister's Office Staff	Return the signed report to the Board secretariat.
Number of appendices and attachment: 1	Appendix 1: Briefing to Incoming Minister on Climate Change Chief Executives Board

Key contacts

Position	Name	Cell phone	1 st contact
Principal Author	s9(2)(a)		
Responsible Manager	Lewis Stevens	s9(2)(a)	
Director	Lisa Daniell	s9(2)(a)	✓

Briefing for incoming Minister for the Climate Change Chief Executives Board

Key Messages

1. This note provides you with a Briefing for the Incoming Minister to support you in your role as Appropriate Minister for the Climate Change Chief Executives Board (the Board).
2. 2022 saw the publication of New Zealand's first Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP), under the Climate Change Response Act 2002.
3. Delivering these plans and preparing our economy for a low-emissions, climate-resilient future is a major challenge. It will require ongoing concerted effort across government.
4. The Board provides overarching governance at officials' level for the delivery of the ERP and NAP (with the NAP to be formally brought into its scope in April). It provides advice to you as Appropriate Minister, and the Climate Response Ministerial Group (CRMG). The CRMG was established in December 2020 and is responsible for cross-sectoral matters relevant to Aotearoa New Zealand's climate change response.
5. The role of the Board, its structure, membership, existing work programme, and priorities are set out in the briefing attached as **Appendix One**.
6. The next CRMG meeting is scheduled for 27 February 2023, we recommend that the attached briefing is circulated to Ministers in this group for their information.
7. The initial view of the Climate Chief Executives Board Secretariat, is that the most critical areas for focus from the Board for the delivery of the ERP and setting the direction for future emissions reduction policy are:

Near term priorities for delivery of the current ERP
The New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme
Transport mode-shift
He Waka Eke Noa, and making progress in reducing agricultural greenhouse gas emissions
Priorities for setting the direction of climate policy
The Energy Strategy, including early decisions to help provide investment certainty, enhance the resilience the energy sector, and support access to affordable energy
Developing ERP2 (2026 to 2030)

8. In April 2023 adaptation and reporting on progress of the NAP will formally become part of the remit of the board. Advice on priority focus areas for reporting are being developed, the Secretariat’s initial view is that Ministers and the Board could focus on the following areas as a priority:

Recommended areas of focus for delivery of the current NAP
Access to the right data and information to take adaptation action
Managed retreat
Flood-resilient buildings and communities
Strategic infrastructure

9. Upcoming deliverables for the next quarter include:
- a. **Priority monitoring and reporting on the ERP:** current reporting frequency sees delivery of quarterly updates on priority focus areas, and the Board’s first six-monthly report (due February) covering progress across the ERP as a whole.
 - b. **Climate Emergency Relief Funding (CERF) Budget advice:** recommendations for Budget 23 priorities and strategic allocation of the CERF to support delivery of the ERP and NAP.
 - c. **Statement of Intent:** confirmation and tabling of the Board’s initial strategic intentions and performance indicators.
 - d. **Integration of NAP reporting:** including priority areas (e.g. managed retreat, flood-resilient buildings and communities) and cadence of reporting.
 - e. **There is also a large number of ERP-related Cabinet papers** from agencies within the Board’s remit, which we anticipate the Board will provide advice on how those could be consolidated/rationalised.

Recommendations

We recommend that you:


- a. **Meet** with the Chair of the Board for further discussion and to outline your expectations for the Climate Change Chief Executives Board.
- b. **Circulate** this briefing to the Climate Response Ministers Group.

Yes/No

Yes/No

Signature

Lewis Stevens Manager, Climate Change Chief Executives Board	s9(2)(a) <div style="background-color: gray; width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
---	--

Hon Chris HIPKINS, Prime Minister	
Hon James SHAW, Minister of Climate Change	
Date	

Appendix 1: Briefing to Incoming Minister on Climate Change Interdepartmental Executive Board