



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

A background image showing a person's hands pouring tea from a traditional Chinese teapot into a teacup, overlaid with a blue tint. A decorative banner with a white and blue checkered pattern and a purple border runs diagonally across the top of the image.

Briefing to the Incoming Minister of Internal Affairs Hon Barbara Edmonds

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Introduction | Kōrero Whakataki

E te rangatira, nei rā te mihi ki koe hei pānui te kōrero a Te Tari Taiwhenua. Nā mātou te honore ki te whakamārama atu ngā mahi ā mātou, ā tātou rānei, nō reira, ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, erangi he toa takimano.

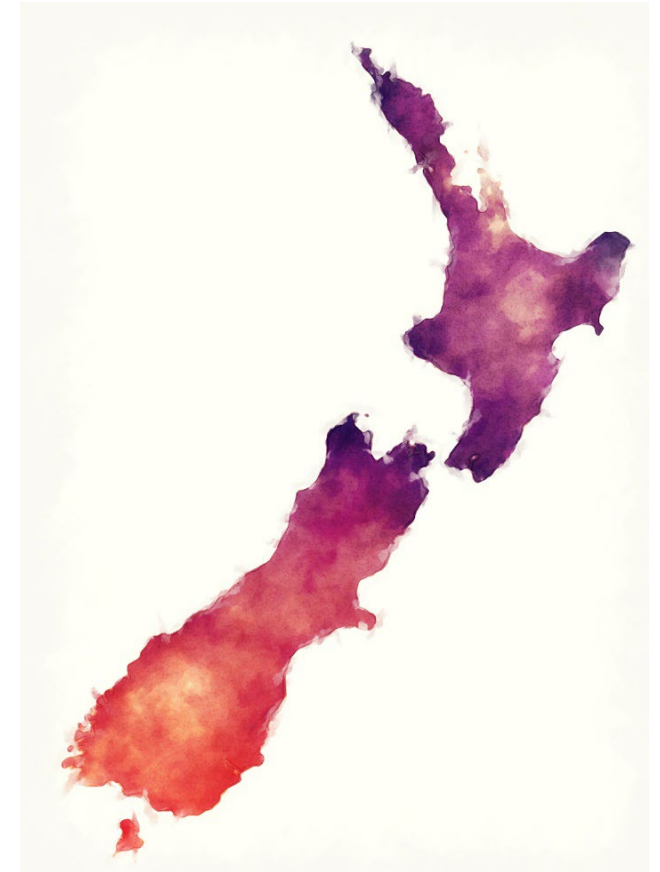
Internal Affairs is a broad and diverse portfolio that serves Aotearoa in multiple ways. It supports safe and thriving communities, fosters people's sense of belonging and the nation's collective memory, and upholds democratic, transparent government.

As Minister of Internal Affairs, you determine the portfolio's priorities. You are responsible for policy and legislation for regulating:

- classification, covering the regulation of publications and films, censorship and enforcement of child sexual exploitation and violent extremist material online, and digital safety
- identity services (passports, life events and citizenship)
- gambling
- Fire and Emergency New Zealand, and
- public records management and the National Library.

You have oversight of the Department's many operational functions: delivery of key life event and identity services from registering births through to issuing passports, regulatory services to minimise harm to New Zealanders in areas ranging from anti-money laundering to gambling, and upholding transparent government through regulating public sector information management and supporting inquiries into matters of national significance.

Archives New Zealand (Archives) and the National Library of New Zealand (National Library) collect and preserve documentary heritage and taonga, which underpin the memory of our nation, government, and culture. The Department is committed to upholding our obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and we have the privileged responsibility for protecting this constitutional document at the He Tohu exhibition, housed at the National Library.



You are also Vote Minister and responsible for overseeing the Government's ownership interests in the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department). The Department's role is to provide you with advice on policy and statutory decisions you must make, and then we implement your directions.

This briefing sets out the portfolio's current work programme, some of the biggest current issues within the portfolio, your role and responsibilities, and those of the Department. We look forward to working with you to support the delivery of your objectives for the Internal Affairs portfolio.

Part One: Current work programme and strategic context

Wāhanga Tuatahi: Rārangi mahi onāiane me te horopaki rautaki

The Department's mahi is wide ranging and affects all New Zealanders

1. Your Internal Affairs portfolio covers a diverse range of responsibilities and functions, with 11 regulatory systems in its mandate.¹ Many of these systems are vital to improving the wellbeing of New Zealanders and cover key areas from identity services to digital safety.
2. In Part One, we provide an outline of the major programmes, investments and policy initiatives currently underway within the Internal Affairs portfolio. We also cover some of the immediate challenges being dealt with in the portfolio. This does not cover all of the work of the portfolio, but includes the issues that will require most of your attention and direction – pending a further conversation with you about reducing the scope of priorities for the portfolio in 2023. You will receive further information on the main functions you are responsible for.

Keeping New Zealanders safe from harm

3. One of the common threads across different functions in the portfolio is keeping New Zealanders safe and reducing the risk of harm. This is achieved through legislative and regulatory settings, delivery of regulatory and enforcement services, and oversight of the Crown entities under the remit of the portfolio (see Part Two). Online safety has become

¹ The regulatory systems within the Internal Affairs Ministerial portfolio which you have responsibility for are classification, including censorship; gambling; fire and emergency; births, deaths, civil unions and marriages; citizenship; identity and passport services; National Library (including legal deposit and public lending right); and public records. The Department also has operational responsibilities for the following regulatory systems, but ownership of the legislation sits with a different Ministerial portfolio: unsolicited electronic messaging (Digital Economy and Communications); private security and investigators (Justice); anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism (Justice).

an increasingly prominent aspect of the harm reduction work in the portfolio in recent years.

Enabling the success of Fire and Emergency New Zealand

4. Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Fire and Emergency) is New Zealand's unified urban and rural firefighting organisation, who also provide other emergency services. Fire and Emergency is a Crown entity that amalgamated rural and urban brigades in 2017. It is mostly funded through a levy on insurance contracts. You are the responsible Minister for both the Crown entity and the legislative framework. Below we outline the key issues we are working on relating to Fire and Emergency.
5. The recent settlement of bargaining between Fire and Emergency and the New Zealand Professional Firefighters Union requires a loan from the Crown. 9(2)(f)(iv)
[REDACTED]
6. An independent Review of Fire and Emergency's culture and complaints handling practices, commissioned by the Public Service Commission Te Kawa Mataaho and undertaken by Belinda Clark, was released on 8 December 2022.
7. Due to a perceived lack of independence and impartiality of Fire and Emergency's internal conduct review processes, the Review has recommended that an Independent Conduct Complaints Authority (ICCA), to be hosted by the Department, would take over internal complaints handling processes from Fire and Emergency for a period of five years. Establishing the ICCA will require legislative change and additional funding. We would welcome a discussion with you on the Review and your expectations for the timeframe for addressing the recommendation to establish the ICCA.
8. Most of the Review's recommendations were for Fire and Emergency to consider: undertake actions to change culture, increase the diversity of its workforce and improve training in dealing with poor behaviour, measure success in changing culture and diversity, and transparently report on its progress. As a result, we will be developing an enhanced



monitoring framework to track and advise you, as responsible Minister, on Fire and Emergency's progress on these matters.

9. Legislative change to establish a new levy model for Fire and Emergency under the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017 is well advanced: it was reported back by Select Committee in December 2022 and needs to complete its remaining stages in the House. This levy model replaces a transitional levy that currently funds Fire and Emergency. Much of the work to establish the new model must be completed before the general election to allow sufficient time for insurance companies to implement the levy.
10. 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]. Public consultation is required on Fire and Emergency's proposed levy rates for the new levy model in mid-2023.

Digital safety and modernising the regulation of content providers

11. The Department administers and enforces the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (the Classification Act), which is focused on traditional non-digital forms of media like printed material and free-to-air television. The Government commissioned the Content Regulatory Review in 2021 to update New Zealand's content regulatory framework to ensure it does a better job at keeping New Zealanders, especially tamariki and rangatahi, safe from harm – especially from the harm that can be caused by online content.
12. 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
13. 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]

14. From an enforcement perspective, the Digital Safety group within the Department works with domestic and international agencies to help prevent New Zealanders from online harm in relation to child sexual exploitation, violent extremist content and unsolicited commercial electronic messages. The case study to the right is an example of this work. Over time, both the amount and types of online harm experienced by New Zealanders has significantly increased, putting pressure on capacity to respond and exposing gaps in the scope of the regulatory framework. Because you have oversight of the Department's significant role in protecting child safety, you may be invited to participate in associated international dialogues.

Improving how we regulate gambling to reduce harm and ensure communities fairly benefit

15. You are responsible for the legislative and regulatory framework under which gambling operates in New Zealand. The Gambling Act 2003 aims to ensure that gambling is offered by trusted and reputable providers, harm is minimised, and there is a community return. As a gambling regulator, the Department also manages the growth of gambling in New Zealand, is responsible for compliance with harm minimisation requirements, and limits opportunities for crime and dishonesty.
16. Improvements to some gambling regulations are underway: in October 2022, Cabinet agreed to a range of changes to the harm minimisation regulations for class 4 (pokies) venues. This includes stricter rules around training, venue practices and new infringement offences. Targeted consultation on an exposure draft of the regulations has just finished, **9(2)(f)(iv)**
17. These regulatory changes are an improvement on the status quo, but they do not address the full range of issues within the current gambling regulatory system, such as:
- a) the strength of regulatory oversight and harm minimisation across all forms of gambling, including offshore online gambling;
 - b) equity, effectiveness and Te Tiriti o Waitangi considerations in how the proceeds of gambling are returned to the community; and

Operation H – a New Zealand led international operation into online objectionable material

We launched and led the two-year Operation H after we were alerted by an electronic service provider that tens of thousands of offenders were using an online platform to share child sexual abuse material.

Investigators seized and examined hundreds of thousands of child abuse material files. More than 90,000 accounts internationally were found to have possessed or traded in this material.

We worked with the New Zealand Police and the New Zealand Customs Service for the investigation, as well as collaborating with law enforcement agencies from around the world.

More than 125 New Zealand based accounts were identified as part of the investigation, leading to 46 arrests and the safeguarding of six children.

Internationally, more than 836 cases were investigated, and 146 children safeguarded.

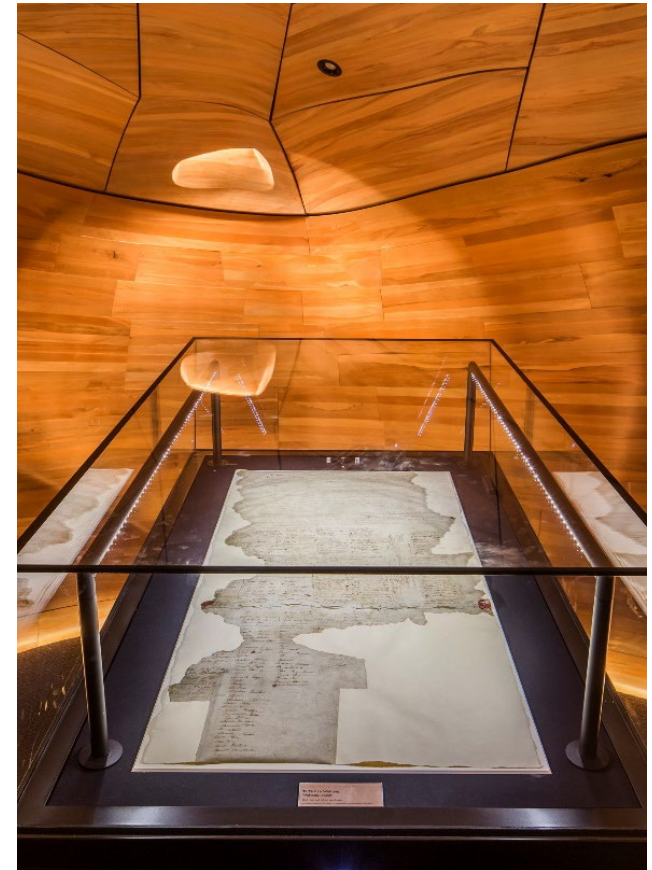
- c) accountability and integrity in the class 4 gambling system with respect to community returns.
- 18. The previous Minister commissioned the Department to scope a review of the Gambling Act and we are about to begin conversations with key stakeholders on this. We do not expect to recommend any policy reforms this term, and could slow this work further.
- 19. As the lead Minister for the gambling regulatory system, you also work with the Minister for Racing on the work in that portfolio to support TAB NZ to continue to be a sustainable funding source for the racing industry.

Preserving our past to enrich our future

- 20. Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Archives New Zealand and Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa the National Library are distinct institutions within the Department. They have statutory responsibilities to collect, preserve and make content accessible to ensure that our documentary heritage and taonga are available now and for future generations, including Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The National Library's functions extend beyond the operation of the National Library itself. In recent years, it has taken on an expanded role in supporting public libraries (although this is contingent on ongoing funding) and in continuing to drive better curricular resources and services to schools. The Chief Archivist also exercises independent regulatory powers to ensure that full, accurate and accessible government records are created and preserved (see Part Two for further information).

Te Ara Tahi: Modernising the care of Crown-held collections.

- 21. Te Ara Tahi is an integrated programme of modernisation led collaboratively by Archives, National Library, and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision (Ngā Taonga).
- 22. Ngā Taonga is a charitable trust that cares for and makes accessible the nation's audio-visual heritage, which includes both Crown and private collections. As Minister of Internal Affairs, you do not have any responsibility for Ngā Taonga. However, Ngā Taonga is co-located with National Library and is a partner to Te Ara Tahi through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in December 2022.



23. Te Ara Tahī will provide the institutions with an opportunity to consider care of the Crown-held collections as one, and enable customers, communities, iwi and Māori to shape how collections and holdings are preserved and accessed. This programme has a 10-year timeframe and 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
24. Tāhuhu, a work stream of Te Ara Tahī, is delivering a new, purpose-built resilient Archives New Zealand building in Wellington, which will be joined to the adjacent National Library building via a link bridge, creating a national documentary and recorded heritage campus. The building will be leased by Te Tari Taiwhenua for an initial lease period of 25 years. Construction began on 1 February 2022 and the building is expected to open to the public in early 2026. You and the Minister of Finance jointly have delegated authority to draw down tagged contingencies for Tāhuhu.
25. Other workstreams of Te Ara Tahī focus on digital capability and services, mātauranga Māori, and our people and partnerships.

Resolving ongoing issues with the Archival Integrated Management System (AIMS)

26. The AIMS is a new online collections management system for Archives kaimahi and customers. Several significant issues have been identified with AIMS since its launch in February 2022. A recent successful system release has resolved some of these issues whilst we also develop a plan for the future of AIMS, including:
 - a) seeking additional (internal) investment to make priority enhancements;
 - b) completing a review of the operating environment (such as training practices and internal policies) at Te Rua Mahara; and
 - c) increasing internal resource to support the ongoing maintenance of AIMS.

Developing new policies for the removal and disposal of National Library collection items

27. Under the National Library of New Zealand Act, Ministerial approval is needed to remove any items from the collections. The National Library is developing a new policy for removal and disposal of items in its research and general collections. This will ensure decisions about removal and disposal are made in line with best practice for collections management and follow a clear and transparent process.
28. The disposal of items from the Overseas Published Collections (OPC) will be part of the implementation of the policy. The review of the OPC and development of the removal and disposal policy have generated public and media interest. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide feedback on a public draft of the policy, starting in February 2023.
29. The National Library will inform you of the outcome of the feedback provided on the policy following that process. The policy is planned for completion in the first half of 2023, after which time we would seek your approval for any removals.



Delivering modern, easy to use and inclusive identity services

30. As Minister, you are responsible for three major identity systems and their legislation: life events (births, deaths, marriages and civil unions), citizenship, and passports.
31. One of the Department's outcomes is that people can easily access the services and information they need. Identity services enable New Zealanders to access key services and entitlements by proving who they are, and many of our identity services reflect milestones in life. The Registrar-General, who sits within the Department, registers life events. We also provide passports, operate the online identity service RealMe, and support you as Minister to grant citizenship.

Te Ara Manaaki: transforming how New Zealanders access our identity and life event services

32. The Te Ara Manaaki programme is a major investment of \$302 million into making it easier for customers to access and use our identity and life event services. It is funded to mid-2025. As part of this programme, we have already made several changes to modernise how we deliver these services, for example enabling people to order a birth certificate online.
33. We are now focused on delivering online self-service options for customers, so that they can more easily access and share their own identity information (for example, to access other Government services). This will include allowing customers to access and use their own citizenship, passport and digital identity information.
34. As part of Te Ara Manaaki, we are also shifting the current aging civil registration system to an Auckland-based cloud data centre. This will keep identity information more secure and support online services.
35. This mahi has given us the opportunity to consult with iwi about whether the Crown should resume collecting iwi affiliation data. Te Kāhui Tātai Tupuna (the Iwi Affiliation Data Decision Group) has recommended that the data should be collected, but with several strong caveats. We will provide you with advice on your options on this in March 2023.

Supporting trusted identity verification online

36. Secure and trusted digital identity services are essential for giving people more control of their information and to support people to prove who they are online.
37. You have Ministerial responsibility for RealMe, which enables New Zealanders to prove who they are digitally.² This complements the Minister for the Digital Economy and Communications' role as the Minister responsible for leading strategic work on the future



² There are two main RealMe products: RealMe login service allows New Zealanders to access multiple online services with one username and password. RealMe verified identity allows people to securely prove who they are online when applying for services and products from participating organisations.

of digital identity and the Digital Identity Services Trust Framework Bill, which is expected to pass all remaining stages in early 2023.

38. The RealMe service will support this framework to work as intended. RealMe's operational funding has been secured for the next four years, and we are evolving the RealMe service to enable customers to share their verified digital identity more easily. This can help to reduce the duplication of information across government, and remove the need for people to carry physical copies of important identity documents like passports around with them when asked to prove their identity (which can be a risk for identity fraud or theft). A more modern approach to verified digital identity will also give New Zealanders more control over their personal information and who it is shared with.

Managing the citizenship backlog

39. A backlog of citizenship by grant³ applications developed while the Department transitioned to a new online application and processing system. The backlog was exacerbated by the Covid-19 lockdowns and peaked at 37,000 in March 2022.
40. The Department has progressively reviewed our policies and processes, and continued to develop the new system, reducing the citizenship by grant backlog by 11,000 applications. As at late January, we have 25,800 citizenship by grant applications on hand.
41. Around 54% of citizenship by grant applications are now processed within the Service Level Agreement target of an average of 10 weeks, and the average wait time has reduced significantly. Some applicants – where more intensive assessment is required – are waiting over a year, others (where checks can be made via algorithms and data matching) are approved in under a month.
42. We are continuing to work to reduce the longest wait times for citizenship applicants, increasing the number of checks that can be automated and reduce common errors by applicants.

³ People who are not eligible to be citizens by birth or descent (such as people who have immigrated to New Zealand) can apply for "citizenship by grant". There are a number of requirements that applicants generally have to meet, for example language requirements.

Making the identity regulatory framework more inclusive

43. The Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021 introduced a self-identification process to amend the nominated sex on a birth certificate. In December 2022, Cabinet agreed to policy proposals for supporting regulations. 9(2)(f)(iv) as the regulations need to be in place when the self-identification process commences by law on 15 June 2023.
44. Surrogacy law and adoption law are both separately going through reform processes. While this mahi is being led by the Minister of Justice, it has implications for citizenship and birth registration which are likely to require you to make some decisions about how to implement broader decisions on reform.

The Department is responsible for setting up statutory inquiries, supporting a transparent government

45. An inquiry is one of a range of mechanisms available to the Government to explore matters of public importance. The Department is responsible for providing administrative support to inquiries and advice on their establishment under the Inquiries Act 2013. As part of this administrative role, we effectively host inquiries within the Department and provide support services to them.
46. You are currently the “appropriate Minister” for two Royal Commissions:
 - a) Royal Commission of Inquiry into **Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-Based Institutions** (Abuse in Care Inquiry) – this started in November 2018 and will conclude in June 2023; and
 - b) Royal Commission of Inquiry into **Lessons Learned from Aotearoa New Zealand’s Response to COVID-19 That Should Be Applied in Preparation for a Future Pandemic** – this was established in December 2022 and will begin hearing evidence from February 2023. It is required to deliver a final report by June 2024.
47. As appropriate Minister you are responsible for the Royal Commissions' financial appropriations and administrative processes, which includes appointing members and

presenting reports to Parliament. While Royal Commissions are independent, they are expected to inform you immediately if they become aware of any matters that could cause public concern or pose a risk to their work or reputation. You will have quarterly meetings with the Commissioners.

9(2)(f)(iv)

48. 9(2)(f)(iv)

49. 9(2)(f)(iv)

Part Two: Roles and responsibilities

Wāhanga Tuarua: Ngā mahi me ngā kawenga

Your role as Minister of Internal Affairs

Portfolio responsibilities

50. As part of your roles and responsibilities as Minister, you will:
- set the direction, policy settings and priorities for the portfolio;
 - work with your colleagues to progress significant proposals through Cabinet; and
 - be accountable to Parliament for the Internal Affairs portfolio appropriations within Vote Internal Affairs (see **Appendix C** for more detail).

Responsibilities for the Department

51. You are the Minister responsible for the Department. You are responsible to Parliament for the Department's performance, and for Vote Internal Affairs (comprising the appropriations for other ministerial portfolios the Department supports). The *Welcome to the Department of Internal Affairs* briefing contains more information about the Vote and appropriations.

Your statutory roles and other responsibilities

52. You have a range of statutory and other responsibilities. **Appendix A** provides more information about these. Additionally, information on your key responsibilities for Crown entities is outlined below.

Crown Entity monitoring

53. You are responsible for two Crown entities: Fire and Emergency New Zealand and the Office of Film and Literature Classification (the Classification Office). You oversee and manage the Crown's interests in, and relationships with, these entities. This includes reviewing their performance, participating in the setting and monitoring of their strategic direction and targets, and recommending appointments to their boards. We are the monitoring agency for both Crown entities and support you with advice on your functions.
54. The Classification Office helps people to make informed decisions about the media they view through the classification of publications. It works with a labelling body to ensure appropriate labels are issued and supports media providers to classify/rate and label content. The Classification Office also classifies publications as objectionable where appropriate, making it illegal to possess, supply and distribute.
55. Fire and Emergency is a relatively new organisation and Crown entity. You are responsible for appointing its Board and providing performance expectations. The immediate Fire and Emergency monitoring priorities for the Department were covered in Part One.

You are the presiding member of the Lottery Grants Board and approve Lotto NZ game rules

56. The New Zealand Lotteries Commission, trading as Lotto NZ, offers gambling products to make profits which are then distributed for community purposes. Lotto NZ is an autonomous Crown entity that must have regard to government policy. Unlike the Crown entities referred to above, it is monitored by the Treasury, while the Department provides secretariat functions for the Lottery Grants Board.
57. You are the presiding member of the Lottery Grants Board, whose core function is to decide on how to allocate Lotto NZ's profits. The Lottery Grants Board is an independent body that determines the annual allocations to the distribution committees and the statutory bodies (Sports NZ, Creative New Zealand, New Zealand Film Commission and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision). In 2022/23, the available allocation is \$357 million.

58. As the presiding member you are responsible for establishing distribution committees, appointing Board liaison members and distribution committee members, and approving the overarching strategic direction of the Board.
59. In 2021 the Lottery Grants Board agreed to a review of the lottery grants and advisory support system and commissioned an independent review of lottery funding to the four statutory bodies. We anticipate there will be some change to what communities, hapū and iwi will see from 2023.
60. You are also responsible for approving Lotto NZ game rules. We will provide you with further advice if Lotto NZ decides to submit a proposal for a new product.

The Department's role in supporting you

61. We support you as Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister responsible for the Department. We will:
 - provide high quality advice to inform your decisions;
 - provide support during the legislative process for various Bills in the House;
 - provide portfolio Private Secretary resource to assist you in your Ministerial office;
 - draft replies to public correspondence, Official Information Act requests, parliamentary questions and media enquiries;
 - keep improving our regulatory practice so it remains responsive and relevant; and
 - assist you in your statutory responsibilities.

The Department's independent decision-making roles

62. Several independent or statutory decision-making roles sit within the Department. More detail on the roles linked to your portfolio is presented below. The Department also supports independent decision-making bodies linked with other portfolios, for example, Te Rātā Atawhai (Charities Registration Board) and the Local Government Commission.

Chief Archivist's all-of-government regulatory role

63. The regulatory function of the Chief Archivist is an all-of-government role. The Chief Archivist has independent decision-making powers and sets the framework for creating and managing information in the public sector (approximately 3,000 entities including 2,500 schools). This includes:
- setting standards and supporting government (including local government) recordkeeping;
 - regulating the creation, management and disposal of records;
 - monitoring compliance (including audits, directions to report, inspections); and
 - reporting to Parliament annually on the state of government record keeping.

The Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages

64. The Registrar-General has general responsibility for the administration of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act. This includes:
- registering and maintaining information relating to births, deaths, marriages, civil unions and name changes, and providing access to that information;
 - appointing marriage and civil union celebrants, and issuing certificates of no impediment for people who wish to marry or enter into a civil union overseas; and
 - agreeing to cross-agency data sharing initiatives.
65. The Registrar-General exercises independent judgment on the matters within his statutory authority, and therefore can determine operational policies. The exception to this is that you have the power to approve requests from specified Ministers to create new identity records for protected witnesses and undercover officers.

The Secretary for Internal Affairs' gambling and classification regulatory role

66. The role of Secretary for Internal Affairs is held by the Chief Executive of the Department. The Secretary has a range of statutory responsibilities under the Gambling Act 2003 including:
- licensing class 3 (mainly large-scale fundraising lotteries) and class 4 (pokies) gambling;
 - assessing suitability of certain persons working with gambling operators;
 - setting game rules and equipment standards;
 - setting minimum operating standards and regulating compliance in casinos; and
 - monitoring and ensuring compliance with gambling legislation, licence conditions, game rules and standards.
67. The Secretary also has statutory responsibilities under the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993. These responsibilities include considering if applications for review of decisions made by the Classification Office meet set criteria and forwarding these applications to the Film and Literature Board or Review.

Part Three: Briefings and decisions

Wāhanga Tuatoru: Ngā whakamārama me ngā whakataunga

68. There are a number of critical upcoming issues where we will require decisions from you in the next few months (including a decision on what remains a priority for the portfolio in 2023). The most urgent of these are:

- a) approving the 2023 March Baseline Update for Vote Internal Affairs
- b) your direction on responding to the recommendations of the independent review of Fire and Emergency's culture and complaints handling practices; and

c) 9(2)(f)(iv)

69. Additionally, there are several legislative and regulatory changes that are close to moving into practical implementation. 9(2)(f)(iv)

70. The following table is a list of key briefings relevant to your portfolio that we currently intend to provide you in the coming months, with an indication of their relative priority and urgency. The list is subject to your approval, and will be revised once we have had a discussion with you about your priorities and any work that you wish us to deprioritise, reduce scope or delay. We will work with your office on the delivery of these briefings. You may also receive introductory briefings or information from Crown entities and statutory bodies connected to your portfolio.

Upcoming briefings

Date	Topic	Title	Detail	Priority
Early February 2023	Finance	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Mid-February 2023	Inquiries	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Mid-February 2023	Lottery Grants Board	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Mid-February 2023	Fire and Emergency	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Mid-February 2023	Online Media and Safety	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Mid-February 2023	Inquiries	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		

Date	Topic	Title	Detail	Priority
Late February 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	Gambling	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	Archives and National Library	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	Cross-portfolio	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	National Library	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		
Late February 2023 (TBC)	Fire and Emergency	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Archives and National Library	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Archives	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	National Library	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		

Date	Topic	Title	Detail	Priority
March 2023	Gambling	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Gambling	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Fire and Emergency	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023 (TBC)	Fire and Emergency	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March 2023	Inquiries	9(2)(f)(iv)		
March/April 2023	National Library	9(2)(f)(iv)		
April 2023	Gambling	9(2)(f)(iv)		
April 2023	Identity	9(2)(f)(iv)		

Appendix A: Ministerial roles and responsibilities

Āpitihanga A: Ngā mahi me ngā kawenga a te Minita

Financial responsibilities

As Minister, you have financial responsibilities for the Internal Affairs appropriations and output expenses within your portfolio. You also have responsibilities for Vote Internal Affairs, as Minister responsible for the Department.

Responsibility for Vote Internal Affairs

Your responsibility for Vote Internal Affairs involves working with other Ministers to support activities under the following portfolios.

- Community and Voluntary Sector
- Ethnic Communities
- Digital Economy and Communications
- Internal Affairs
- Local Government
- Ministerial Services
- Racing

You have a key role in coordinating overall budget planning and reporting for the Vote. Portfolio Ministers work with you as Vote Minister to agree priorities in each year's Budget.

The Vote Internal Affairs structure provides some flexibility and opportunities for moving resources to meet demand. However, relevant portfolio Ministers must agree to the reprioritisation of funds within the Vote (i.e. between portfolio allocations). This requires a high level of collaboration between you and your ministerial colleagues.

You also have responsibility for the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the Department. The *Welcome to the Department of Internal Affairs* briefing explains more about the Vote.

Responsibility for Internal Affairs appropriations

As portfolio Minister, you are responsible for the activities that fall within the Internal Affairs portfolio. This does not include activities that fall under other portfolios the Department also supports. You are responsible for expenditure and services received under appropriations or output expenses relevant to the Internal Affairs portfolio. These are summarised in **Appendix C**.

Statutory Body appointments

In addition to the Crown entities described on page 16, you appoint members to the following statutory bodies:

- the Archives Council – advises you on recordkeeping and archival matters;
- Guardians Kaitiaki of the Alexander Turnbull Library – advises you on key matters relating to the operation of the Alexander Turnbull Library;
- the Library and Information Advisory Commission – advises you on issues of access to library services, and the role of library and information services;
- the Gambling Commission – determines applications for casino licences, determines appeals against decisions of the Secretary for Internal Affairs, and facilitates consultation on problem gambling strategies and levy rates;
- New Zealand Lottery Grants Board – distributes the profits of Lotto NZ and determines the proportions in which lottery profits are allocated to lottery distribution committees;
- twenty different lottery distribution committees – consider applications from community groups and makes decisions on grants for community purposes; and
- the Film and Literature Board of Review – a statutory appeal board that, upon successful application, reviews classification decisions made by the Classification Office.

Statutory decision making – citizenship and passports

As Minister of Internal Affairs, you authorise persons to become New Zealand citizens under the Citizenship Act 1977. Approximately 30,000 applications for citizenship by grant are received each year. Most of these applications meet all legislative criteria and are approved under

delegated authority. A small number of applications are reserved for decision by the Minister. You have the power to waive certain legislative requirements where exceptional circumstances apply.

In a typical year, you will personally consider approximately 250 individual applications. In limited circumstances, you can deprive a person of New Zealand citizenship. We will brief you on these responsibilities, and the recommendations process to assist your decision-making. You have the power under the Passports Act 1992, to refuse to issue, cancel or retain New Zealand travel documents on the grounds of national or international security. This power is not delegated. We plan to brief you further on passport cancellations.

Responsibilities in relation to the Chatham Islands

You are responsible for an appropriation that provides funding for the main port of the Chatham Islands, Waitangi Wharf. You work with the Minister of Local Government, who is responsible for an appropriation that provides financial assistance to the Chatham Islands Council. You are the lead Minister for the Chatham Islands Investment Strategy, which is an agreement between the community and the Crown on the priorities for investment in the Chatham Islands. You are also the settlor of the Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust. The Trust owns infrastructure and operates key services for the benefit of the community. As the settlor, you approve changes to the Trust's deed, and to the Trust's election procedures.



Appendix B: Legislation we administer

Āpitihanga B: Te ture e whakahaerehia ana e tātau

The Acts that you have responsibility for under the Internal Affairs portfolio are outlined below, alongside the major statutory responsibilities or powers you have under these Acts.

Act	Summary of purpose	Minister's major responsibilities or powers
Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021	Recording and verification of information to provide the official record of births, deaths, marriages, civil unions, name change, adoptions, and sex.	You approve requests from specified Ministers to create new identity record information for protected witnesses and undercover officers.
Citizenship Act 1977 Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982	The status of New Zealand citizenship and the means of acquiring citizenship.	You have the power to approve grants of New Zealand citizenship and may reduce or waive certain requirements for grants. In certain circumstances, you can deprive a person of citizenship.
Electronic Identity Verification Act 2012	The operation of the RealMe identity verification service.	You are responsible for approving any delegation to persons outside of the State sector.
Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993	Classification of films, videos, books, and other publications; and offences relating to objectionable publications (such as violent extremist content).	You are responsible for recommending who to appoint as the Chief Censor and the Deputy Chief Censor, and approving a body or organisation to be a labelling body.
Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017	Establishing Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) as a unified national fire and emergency organisation, and defines their responsibilities, powers and funding.	You are responsible for Board members and approving specified FENZ activities and schemes.
Gambling Act 2003	The framework for regulating gambling. Among other things, it seeks to minimise harm and ensure money from gambling benefits the community.	You approve Lotto NZ game rules, including whether they are allowed to offer new types of lotteries.
Identity Information Confirmation Act 2012	Allows public and private sector organisations to use a web-based service to confirm identity information provided to them by individuals, by comparing it with information held by the Department.	N/A

Act	Summary of purpose	Minister's major responsibilities or powers
Inquiries Act 2013	Provides the legal framework for two types of inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Inquiries (including Royal Commissions), established by the Governor-General, and Government Inquiries, which are established by a Minister. 	If appointed as the "Appropriate Minister" of an inquiry, your duties include proposing members.
National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa) Act 2003	To preserve, develop and make available the collections of the National Library.	You have the power to approve the transfer of ownership, custody, or use of documents owned by the National Library to any authority or person.
Passports Act 1992	Sets out the right of New Zealand citizens to hold New Zealand passports. It also sets out who can apply for an emergency travel document, refugee travel document or certificate of identity.	You have the power to issue New Zealand passports, and to refuse to issue, or to cancel, travel documents in specified cases.
Public Records Act 2005	Ensures the creation, maintenance and accessibility of full and accurate central and local government records.	You are responsible for appointing members of the Archives Council, and declaring records as 'prescribed', which gives the Chief Archivist power to obtain copies of or acquire the record.

Other Acts

There are several other Acts under your Internal Affairs portfolio, which do not involve significant ministerial responsibilities or activities. These are the:

- Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908
- Boxing and Wrestling Act 1981
- Public Lending Right for New Zealand Authors Act 2008
- Time Act 1974.

Appendix C: Appropriations

Āpitihanga C: Ngā pūtea tauwhāiti

Vote Internal Affairs

Funding for the Internal Affairs portfolio is appropriated within Vote Internal Affairs. This currently covers seven ministerial portfolios that are carrying forward from the previous parliamentary session. More information about the Vote and appropriations can be found in the *Welcome to the Department of Internal Affairs* briefing.

Internal Affairs portfolio funding

As Minister of Internal Affairs, you are responsible for all the expenditure and services received under appropriations relevant to the Internal Affairs portfolio. The Internal Affairs portfolio appropriations are \$556.4 million (\$424.2 million departmental operating, \$75.0 million departmental capital, and \$57.2 million non-departmental (operating and capital)).⁴ The table below outlines the largest appropriations under the Internal Affairs portfolio in 2022/23.

⁴ Departmental operating appropriations are outputs, other expenses, or expenditure incurred by the Department. The Department is responsible to the Minister for what is achieved with departmental appropriations. Departmental capital is for the development of assets by and for the use of the Department. Non-departmental appropriations are where Ministers have decided to use a supplier other than a department to provide an output.

Snapshot of the largest appropriations under the Internal Affairs portfolio

\$ million	Appropriation	Scope
176.407	Managing and Accessing Identity Information	Providing effective management of New Zealand's records of identity, authenticating official documents and coordinating the congratulatory message service
122.349	Knowledge and Information Services	Collection, acquisition, preservation, management and provision of access to heritage information and public archives, provision of operational advice and services to enable government accountability, provision of services to schools and assist access to library collections and other information
75.000	Department of Internal Affairs – Capital Expenditure PLA	The purchase or development of assets by and for the use of the Department of Internal Affairs, as authorised by section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989
46.283	Regulatory Services	The operational policy advice and services to administer all aspects of the regulatory functions and services (excluding public sector recordkeeping) that are assigned to the Department of Internal Affairs
34.388	Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions – Operating Expenses	Supporting the Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

Appendix D: Key contacts in the Department of Internal Affairs

Āpitihanga D: Ngā tino whakapā i roto i Te Tari Taiwhenua

