



Cabinet Domestic Policy Committee

DOM Min (09) 21/5

Copy No:

Minute of Decision

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Review of Land of Potential Interest Process for the Disposal of Crown-Owned Land

Portfolio: Land Information

On 23 September 2009, the Cabinet Domestic Policy Committee (DOM):

Background

1 **noted** that in August 2007, the previous government:

1.1 agreed to the Land of Potential Interest (LPI) process and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (HPT), Te Puni Kokiri (TPK), and local government notification processes;

1.2 agreed that the modified interim process be reviewed in February 2009;

[CAB Min (07) 31/1A]

2 **noted** that in May 2009, DOM:

2.1 deferred consideration of an earlier version of the paper under DOM (09) 87;

2.2 invited the Minister for Land Information to give further consideration to alternatives to the LPI process, and to report to DOM with any proposals;

[DOM Min (09) 9/4]

Review of Land of Potential Interest process

3 **noted** that, since the introduction of the LPI process in 2007:

3.1 Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) has reported to Ministers on 186 disposals, encompassing approximately 133,980 hectares of land;

3.2 Ministers have sought formal protections over eight properties before disposal, of which three were purchased for future Treaty of Waitangi Settlements;

3.3 heritage covenants were placed over five properties;

4 **noted** that the current LPI process unnecessarily duplicates other land disposal processes;

- 5 **agreed** to discontinue the LPI process, and the TPK and local government notification processes established under CAB Min (07) 31/1A;
- 6 **agreed** that any current cases going through the LPI process be discontinued, and that disposing agencies dispose of them in accordance with the proposals in the paper under DOM (09) 87;
- 7 **noted** that discontinuing the LPI process will mean that there will be no formal process for considering values on land held by non-core Crown agencies;
- 8 **directed** LINZ to prepare a draft letter for Ministers to send to agencies under their control:
- 8.1 advising them of the decisions set out in this minute;
 - 8.2 advising each agency of the values that they should consider before disposing of properties, how to obtain further information on those values, and how to protect them where appropriate;
 - 8.3 reiterating the responsibility of each chief executive to manage land in an appropriate manner;
 - 8.4 reiterating the need to advise the relevant Minister of any issues arising from the management and disposal of that land;
- 9 **noted** that LINZ will:
- 9.1 review its guidelines for the disposal of land to provide best practice guidance on the consideration and protection of any values on land;
 - 9.2 consult TPK and other agencies when it reviews its guidelines;
- 10 **directed** LINZ, in consultation with relevant departments, to:
- 10.1 review the new process for considering values on land held by non-core Crown agencies, after it has been in place for one year;
 - 10.2 report to DOM by December 2010, in conjunction with the report referred in paragraph 13 below, if possible;
- 11 **noted** that the approved funding for Vote Lands of \$0.110 million per annum for the LPI process was offered back to the Crown as savings from 2009/10;

New Zealand Historic Places Trust notification process

- 12 **agreed** to retain the HPT notification process, as in agreed in paragraphs 8 and 18 of CAB Min (07) 31/1A, until the completion of the report outlined in paragraph 13 below;
- 13 **directed** the Ministry for Culture and Heritage to review the HPT notification process and report to DOM by December 2010 on whether this process should be retained;
- 14 **agreed** that the appropriation of \$0.185 million to HPT remain until decisions are taken by DOM as a result of the report referred to in paragraph 13 above;

Publicity

- 15 **noted** that all publicity will be handled by the Minister for Land Information and the Minister for State Owned Enterprises.

Committee Secretary

Reference: DOM (09) 87

Present:

Hon Bill English
Hon Simon Power (Chair)
Hon Tony Ryall
Hon Judith Collins (part of item)
Hon Christopher Finlayson
Hon Georgina te Heuheu
Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman
Hon Maurice Williamson
Hon John Carter
Hon Nathan Guy

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DOM