



# Cabinet Economic Development Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Land Information New Zealand: Fees for Survey and Title Services: Release of Consultation Document

Portfolio Land Information

On 24 February 2021, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV):

- 1 **noted** that Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) provides statutorily-required services to maintain the land ownership register and cadastral survey records (survey and title services), and that these services are funded by fees charged to the service users;
- 2 **noted** that on 16 October 2018, the Cabinet Government Administration and Expenditure Review Committee:
  - 2.1 approved a programme business case to rebuild Landonline and improve LINZ's customer service processes;
  - 2.2 noted that the cost of the rebuild will be funded over ten years through fees;
  - 2.3 directed LINZ to complete a survey and title third party fees review by early 2021 to identify any fee increases that are required to recover operating costs, capital charge, and depreciation;

[GOV-18-MIN-0078]
- 3 **noted** that, allowing for the additional costs relating to the rebuild of Landonline, LINZ projects operating costs to increase from \$70.6 million in the year ending 30 June 2020 to an average of \$87.8 million per annum for the five years from 1 July 2021;
- 4 **noted** that the cost to recover is an average of \$83.1 million per annum over the next five years, taking into account the need to reduce the current Memorandum Account surplus to zero over five years;
- 5 **noted** that recovering these costs will require title fees to increase by 13 percent on average and survey fees to increase by 57 percent on average, reflecting both the increase in costs to be recovered and the re-apportionment of costs between services;
- 6 **noted** the summary of the estimated fee impact on survey and title service users, as outlined in Table 1 of the paper under DEV-21-SUB-0009;
- 7 **noted** the consultation document *Proposed New Fees for Land Information New Zealand Survey and Title Services* (the consultation document), attached to the paper under DEV-21-SUB-0009;

- 8 **noted** that public consultation on the fee proposals may generate media interest in light of public concern about the rising cost of house purchases and land development;
- 9 **agreed** to the release of the consultation document at the start of March 2021;
- 10 **authorised** the Minister for Land Information to approve any minor or editorial changes to the consultation document that may be required before its release;
- 11 **invited** the Minister for Land Information to report back to DEV seeking approval for final fee decisions following the consultation process;
- 12 **noted** that LINZ will complete another survey and title third party fees review when the Survey and Title Enhancement Programme is completed in 2023.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Kris Faafoi  
Hon Michael Wood  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Meka Whaitiri  
Hon Phil Twyford  
Rino Tirikatene, MP  
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for DEV

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Minister for Land Information