



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Workforce Planning for All Social Workers: Social Workers Registration Board as Lead Agency

**Portfolio**                      **Social Development**

On 29 July 2020, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

- 1        **noted** that social workers are an essential, professional workforce that makes a critical contribution to the effectiveness of health and social services;
- 2        **noted** that the sustainability of health and social services is at risk due to an absence of strategic oversight on social worker supply and demand;
- 3        **noted** that a lead agency is proposed to fill the gap in providing and supporting workforce planning across all social workers, and overcome the fragmentation in leadership across over 600 employers most of which are NGO providers;
- 4        **agreed** that the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) be designated as the lead agency to provide and support workforce planning for all social workers;
- 5        **noted** that funding is required so that the SWRB can increase its capability and capacity to implement the decision in paragraph 4 above;
- 6        **noted** that the SWRB will use funding to deliver workforce planning for all social workers consistent with the scope and expectations statement in Appendix 1 of the paper under SWC-20-SUB-0111;
- 7        **agreed** to reprioritise the existing funding in Family Start/NGO Awards, a Benefit or Related Expense in Vote Social Development, towards the funding required by the SWRB;
- 8        **agreed** to establish a new Non-Departmental Output expense appropriation as set out below:

<b>Vote</b>	Social Development
<b>Minister</b>	Minister for Social Development
<b>Title</b>	Social Workers Registration Board
<b>Type</b>	Non-Departmental Output Expense
<b>Scope</b>	This appropriation is limited to supporting the Social Workers Registration Board deliver mandatory registration and workforce planning for all social workers.

9 **approved** the following fiscally neutral changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decisions under paragraphs 4 and 7 above, with no impact on the operating balance:

Vote Social Development Minister for Social Development	\$m - increase/(decrease)			
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & outyears
<b>Benefits or Related Expenses:</b>				
Family Start/NGO Awards	(0.605)	(0.605)	(0.705)	(0.705)
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses:</b>				
Social Workers Registration Board	1.393	0.718	0.819	0.819
Implementation and Operation of the Mandatory Registration of Social Workers	(0.788)	(0.113)	(0.114)	(0.114)
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	-	-	-

10 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2020/21 above be included in the 2020/21 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest supply.

Vivien Meek  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Kris Faafoi  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Aupito William Sio  
Hon Poto Williams  
Jan Logie, MP

**Officials present from:**

Prime Minister's Office  
Officials Committee for SWC  
Office of the SWC Chair