



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Effective Administration of the Arms Regulatory System

Portfolio

Police

On 12 April 2021, following reference from the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC), Cabinet:

Background

- 1 **noted** that in June 2020, Cabinet:
 - 1.1 noted that the Minister of Police had agreed to the establishment of an independent regulatory entity;
 - 1.2 agreed that officials undertake further work on a model for moving accountability for some of the Arms Act regulatory functions from Police; and
 - 1.3 invited the Minister of Police to report to Cabinet in November 2020 on options for an independent regulatory entity [CAB-20-MIN-0263];

Preferred options for administration of the arms regulatory system

- 2 **noted** the proposals set out in the paper attached to CAB-21-SUB-0115 on the options for the operating model for delivering improvements in the management of the firearms regime;
- 3 **deferred** a decision on the preferred option to allow time for consultation with the Arms Advisory Group;
- 4 **invited** the Minister of Police to:
 - 4.1 consult the Arms Advisory Group on the preferred options, including the option of a branded business unit within the Police, but with a review after three years;
 - 4.2 report back to Cabinet on the preferred options following consultation with the Arms Advisory Group;

Financial recommendations

- 5 **noted** that in April 2020, Cabinet agreed to a \$60 million four-year tagged operating contingency (the tagged contingency) and \$5 million ongoing into the outyears, with draw-down subject to Cabinet approval of a business case providing options for meeting the new legislative requirements [CAB-20-MIN-0155.26 Revised]:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 & Outyears
Implementation of the Arms Legislation Act – Tagged Operating Contingency	28.000	22.000	5.000	5.000	5.000

- 6 **agreed** that the purpose for the tagged contingency be expanded from “meeting the new legislative requirements” to “ensuring legislative requirements are being met through the effective administration of the Arms Regulatory system”;
- 7 **agreed** to the rephrasing and categorisation of the tagged contingency as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 & Outyears
Implementation of the Arms Legislation Act – Tagged Operating Contingency	15.400	23.500	7.100	3.000	5.000
Implementation of the Arms Legislation Act – Tagged Capital Contingency	-	-	11.000	-	-

- 8 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to draw down the tagged contingency, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Policing Services (MCA)					
Departmental Output Expense:					
Crime Prevention (funded by revenue Crown)	15.400	23.500			
Total Operating	15.400	23.500	-	-	-
Total Capital	-	-	-	-	-

- 9 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraph 8 above be charged against the *Implementation of the Arms Legislation Act – Tagged Operating Contingency* described in paragraph 6 above.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet