



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Carmel Sepuloni	<b>Portfolio</b>	Social Development and Employment
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Annual Report-back and Refresh of the Employment Strategy	<b>Date to be published</b>	27 February 2023

<b>List of documents that have been proactively released</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
November 2022	Annual Report-back and Refresh of the Employment Strategy	Office of the Minister for Social Development and Employment
November 2022	Annex 1: Employment Strategy Framework	MBIE
November 2022	Annex 2: Employment Strategy Initiatives	MBIE
23 November 2022	The Employment Strategy: Annual Report Back and Refresh SWC-22-MIN-0220 Minute	Cabinet Office

### **Information redacted**

**YES**

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reason of Confidential advice to Government.



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

## Minute of Decision

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*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

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### The Employment Strategy: Annual Report Back and Refresh

**Portfolio**                      **Social Development and Employment**

On 23 November 2022, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC):

- 1        **noted** that in October 2021, SWC agreed that progress on the Employment Strategy be reported back to Cabinet annually [SWC-21-MIN-0159];
- 2        **noted** that significant progress has been made on workstreams under the Employment Strategy including:
  - 2.1      the release of the seven Employment Action Plans;
  - 2.2      progress on the Reform of Vocational Education;
  - 2.3      the release of the 15 Regional Workforce Plans;
  - 2.4      the establishment of the Workforce Development Councils;
  - 2.5      the first substantial phase of the Active Labour Market Programmes Review;
  - 2.6      Cabinet’s agreement to Ministry of Social Development’s role in providing employment services [SWC-22-MIN-0091];
  - 2.7      progress on the design of the New Zealand Income Insurance Scheme;
  - 2.8      work under the Immigration Rebalance;
  - 2.9      the passing of the Fair Pay Agreements Act 2022;
- 3        **noted** that minor changes are proposed to the Employment Strategy to provide a more enduring framework with greater emphasis on implementation and monitoring;
- 4        **agreed** to the proposed refresh of the Employment Strategy, as outlined in the submission under SWC-22-SUB-0220;
- 5        **noted** that the vision of the refreshed strategy is “All New Zealanders can participate in employment with opportunities to fulfil their needs and aspirations”;

- 6 **noted** that the four objectives of the Employment Strategy are:
- 6.1 Skilled workers: Build a skilled workforce so workers have the skills they need to fulfil their career aspirations;
  - 6.2 Thriving industries and regions: Support thriving industries and regions so businesses can create more jobs and people can work where they choose;
  - 6.3 Responsive workplaces: Support workplaces to respond to the changing world of work and to provide healthy, safe, and productive jobs with opportunities for workers to progress;
  - 6.4 Inclusive work: Promote inclusive work so everyone has access to opportunities to participate in meaningful and fulfilling work;
- 7 **noted** that key labour market indicators have been identified, which will be used to track progress in achieving outcomes;
- 8 **authorised** the Minister for Social Development and Employment to publish the Employment Strategy and to make any minor editorial changes required prior to publication;
- 9 **noted** that the Minister for Social Development and Employment will continue to report annually on the progress of the Employment Strategy;
- 10 **noted** the Minister for Social Development and Employment's intention to publish the new Employment Strategy framework attached under SWC-22-SUB-0220.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Grant Robertson  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)  
Hon Andrew Little  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Jan Tinetti  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan  
Hon Meka Whaitiri

**Officials present from:**

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