



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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COVID-19: Mass Gatherings

Portfolio

Health

On 16 March 2020, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that the global situation regarding COVID-19 is developing rapidly;
- 2 **noted** that there are a number of mass gatherings scheduled for March 2020;
- 3 **noted** that cancelling mass gatherings can help slow the spread of COVID-19 in New Zealand, reduce the number of people infected, and protect those who are more vulnerable to severe illness;
- 4 **agreed** that gatherings of 500 or more people, held outdoors or indoors, should be cancelled;
- 5 **agreed** that the above decision apply to events including festivals, fairs, sporting, religious and cultural events;
- 6 **directed** officials to submit further advice to the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 Response as soon as possible on guidance around events of different sizes, including statutory powers.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Health