



Listening, learning, changing
Mā Whakarongo me Ako ka huri te tai
Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Erica Stanford	Portfolio	Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions
Title of briefing	Draft Cabinet papers on meaningful apologies and on further decisions regarding serious offenders' access to financial redress	Date to be published	13 March 2026

Withholding grounds

Information within this document has been withheld as if it had been requested under the Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding have been listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

- section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons

Notes

- Draft Cabinet papers have been removed from this release as the final papers are publicly available at the following links:
 1. [Access to Redress for Survivors of Abuse in Care with Convictions for Serious Violent and Sexual Offending](#)
 2. [introducing legislation to underpin changes to redress for abuse in care](#)

Cover note



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Draft Cabinet papers on meaningful apologies and on further decisions regarding serious offenders' access to financial redress

Date:	29 May 2025	Security level:	
Priority:	High	Report number:	CRACI 25/056

Actions sought

Hon Erica Stanford
Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

- Review and approve for Ministerial consultation the two appended draft Cabinet papers due for consideration at Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee on 25 June 2025.

Contact for discussion

Name	Position	Telephone	1 st contact
Rajesh Chhana	Chief Executive, Crown Response Office		
Rebecca Martin	Head of Policy, Crown Response Office	9(2)(a)	✓

Agencies consulted

Redress agencies – the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development, Oranga Tamariki, Department of Corrections and Te Puni Kōkiri – the Ministry of Justice and Crown Law were consulted on the draft Cabinet papers.

Minister's office to complete

- Noted
- Seen
- See Minister's notes
- Needs change
- Overtaken by events
- Declined
- Referred to (specify)

Comments



Cover note

Draft Cabinet papers on meaningful apologies and on further decisions regarding serious offenders access to financial redress

For: Hon Erica Stanford, Lead Coordination Minister for the Government’s Response to the Royal Commission’s Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

Date: 29 May 2025

Security level:

Priority: High

Report number: CRACI 25/056

Purpose

1. This briefing provides two draft Cabinet papers for your review:
 - a. Report back – further matters relating to introducing a presumption against redress for abuse in State care for serious sexual and violent offenders; and
 - b. Delivering more meaningful personal apologies to survivors of abuse and neglect in care.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that you:

- a) **note** two draft Cabinet papers are appended for Ministerial consultation as follows:
- b) **approve** for Ministerial consultation the two appended draft Cabinet papers due for consideration at Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee on 25 June 2025

Yes / No

Rebecca Martin
 Head of Policy, Crown Response Office
 Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

Hon Erica Stanford
 Lead Coordination Minister for the Crown
 Response to the Royal Commission’s Report into
 Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of
 Faith-based Institutions

29 / 05 / 2025

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Papers on personal apologies and further decisions relating to redress for serious offenders are due to be considered by the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee on 25 June

3. Subject to your feedback on the draft Cabinet papers, a suggested timeline for consulting and finalising the two Cabinet papers is as follows:

Milestone	Timeframe
Lead Coordination Minister's review	30 May – 3 June
Ministerial Consultation	4 June – 17 June
Finalise papers to address Ministerial feedback	18 June
Papers lodged	19 June
Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee	25 June
Cabinet	30 June

4. Points to note in regard to these papers:
5. the draft apologies Cabinet paper seeks policy decisions on settings where the apology cannot be admitted (paragraph 21.2). These settings are still under discussion with agencies.
- a. the draft serious offenders paper reflects your decisions on matters set out in the Briefing – Further matters relating to the introduction of a presumption against redress for serious sexual and violent offenders [CRACI 25/057 refers], noting the proposed fine for the offence of failing to disclose relevant information now has a maximum penalty of \$5,000 rather than \$10,000. This decision was endorsed by the Ministry of Justice's Offence and Penalty Vetting (OPV) team.

Next steps

6. We recommend you review and approve for Ministerial consultation the appended draft Cabinet papers. We will update the papers to address Ministerial feedback, with a view to lodging on 19 June 2025.