



# Listening, learning, changing Mā Whakarongo me Ako ka huri te tai

Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Erica Stanford	<b>Portfolio</b>	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
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Supporting a community-led approach to the National Day of Reflection and next steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund	<b>Date to be published</b>	17 December 2025

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
23 July 2025	Supporting a community-led approach to the National Day of Reflection and next steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund	Crown Response Office
23 July 2025	Supporting a community-led approach to the National Day of Reflection and next steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund SOU-25-MIN-0090	Cabinet Office
28 July 2025	Report of the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee: Period Ended 25 July 2025 CAB-25-MIN-0250	Cabinet Office

### Withholding grounds

Documents have been released in full.

Office of the 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

Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee

**Supporting a community-led approach to the National Day of Reflection and next steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund**

**Proposal**

- 1 This paper seeks agreement to establish a contestable fund of \$1m to support the community-led approach to the one-off National Day of Reflection on abuse in care on 12 November 2025. It also seeks agreement to provide a further \$2m of funding to enable a second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund due to the first round being oversubscribed.

**Relation to government priorities**

- 2 This paper progresses the Government's response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions (the Royal Commission).

**Background**

- 3 During the Crown's public apology for abuse in care on 12 November 2024, the Prime Minister announced a one-off 'National Remembrance Day' on 12 November 2025. The purpose of this day is to "call the country to reflect on abuse in care, survivors of abuse, and those who have passed away".
- 4 The day will be called the 'National Day of Reflection' and will have the following intended outcomes:
  - 4.1 survivors of abuse in care are acknowledged and remembered;
  - 4.2 raise awareness about historic abuse in care and the story of care in New Zealand;
  - 4.3 raise awareness about contemporary care in New Zealand and the need to prevent abuse; and
  - 4.4 people are informed about the Government's progress on responding to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care's recommendations.
- 5 On 19 May 2025, the Crown Response Ministerial Group endorsed the outcomes for the National Day of Reflection and agreed that it would take a community-led approach. Accordingly, the day will consist primarily of a combination of community-led events and/or activities, along with activities organised by government agencies that demonstrate progress, accountability, and transparency. Other groups, including faith-based, non-government care organisations, and Iwi, can choose to mark the day in their own way.

- 6 In October 2024, as part of agreed further actions to accompany the Crown's public apology for abuse in care, Cabinet agreed [SOU-24-MIN-0129 refers] to establish a survivor-focused fund, the 'Survivor Support and Recognition Fund' (SSRF), which supports:
- 6.1 local authorities in Auckland, Waikato, Nelson, Rangitikei, Horowhenua, Porirua, Otago, Westland and Canterbury, in their work already underway, or in proposed new projects, to care for or memorialise unmarked graves associated with psychiatric hospitals, psychopaedic sites, or other sites that were places of care; and
  - 6.2 initiatives delivered by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing direct support to survivors, including survivor-led initiatives.
- 7 The intent of the SSRF was to achieve one of the shifts identified in the Royal Commission's final report, *Whanaketia – Through pain and trauma, from darkness to light* - to address the wrongs of the past through actions to acknowledge and memorialise victim and survivor experiences. This responds to recommendations from the Royal Commission to accompany acknowledgements and apologies with tangible demonstrations of reconciliation and to fund projects to investigate unmarked graves.
- 8 Cabinet agreed [SOU-24-MIN-0129 refers] that the SSRF would initially be allocated \$2 million and authorised the Associate Finance Minister, Lead Coordination Minister and Minister for the Public Service to finalise the detailed design of the fund. Joint Ministers agreed in December 2024 that \$500,000 would be allocated to initiatives by local authorities on unmarked graves and \$1.5 million for initiatives to support NGOs to provide supports and services to survivors of abuse in care.
- 9 The SSRF is non-contestable, whereby applications that meet the criteria can be funded up to \$50,000. The SSRF is administered by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), with the Crown Response Office providing operational policy oversight and engagement support. The SSRF was opened in February and the funding for initiatives providing direct support to survivors has now been fully distributed. Organisations who have received funding are included in Annex One.

**Establishing a contestable fund will support the community-led approach to the National Day of Reflection**

- 10 To achieve the intended outcomes of the one-off National Day of Reflection, there will need to be events held across the country, by organisations that represent, support, or are otherwise connected, to, a wide range of survivor communities. Survivor engagement has highlighted their aspiration for both smaller, community-focused, organisations and larger groups, that represent and advocate for survivors at a regional and national level, to hold events on the day.
- 11 The simplest mechanism to reach this range of groups is to establish a contestable 'National Day of Reflection Fund' (NDRF) to be operated by the same DIA team managing the SSRF. A contestable fund is recommended to

ensure a geographic spread of community events and involving a diverse range of communities, within a fixed level of funding. A new category within DIA's Multi-Category Appropriation will be established for the NDRF, as the scope of the existing category for the SSRF is limited to support services for survivors or work by local councils on unmarked graves.

- 12 I propose \$1 million be allocated for the NDRF. This level of funding will support 100 to 150 community events across the country, which will enable national coverage and a wide range of communities organising events. DIA is able to absorb the administration of the fund into its baseline costs, which allows the full amount to be distributed to community organisations or local government. The funding level for the NDRF has been proposed based on research which estimated the number and type of organisations who may seek to run an event and reflects the relatively tight timeframes for organisations to prepare and submit proposals.
- 13 The Crown Response Office will finalise the detailed design of the fund, including the funding caps for the different categories of activities, following that decision.
- 14 I propose organisations operated by churches are excluded from applying for the NDRF due to the findings of the Royal Commission of faith-based institutions, alongside the state, historically failing to protect and safeguard children and vulnerable adults from abuse in care. It is therefore appropriate that they fund any event that they hold.

#### **Next steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund**

- 15 The SSRF opened for applications on 19 February 2025 and has been fully allocated. While it is too early for officials to conduct a full evaluation of the impact of the SSRF, uptake data shows there is significant demand for community-based supports and services for survivors of abuse in care.
- 16 The \$1.5 million funding allocated through this fund has enabled NGOs to deliver services and supports across all regions of New Zealand, to a wide range of survivor cohorts. These services and supports include advocacy, wellbeing supports, workshops, and awareness initiatives. Further organisations have indicated their intention to apply for funding through the SSRF but are unable to progress these due to it being fully allocated.
- 17 All nine relevant local authorities have either applied or stated a specific intention to apply for funding for work related to unmarked graves. Local authority applications are taking longer to develop than those for NGOs because of a longer lead-in time required for Councils to develop and approve their applications. This reflects the number and range of stakeholders, the uncertainty that remains about the extent and location of unmarked graves, and the nature and timing of Council-approval processes.
- 18 I recommend we extend the SSRF to provide a second round of funding to continue to provide locally delivered support for survivors, with a primary focus on funding initiatives from new applicants. I propose an additional \$2 million in funding be provided to the SSRF, which would be met from the

tagged operating contingency which was established as part of Budget 25 to support the Government's implementation of the Royal Commission response [CAB-25-MIN-0126.72 refers]. I will announce the next round of funding for the SSRF on the National Day of Reflection.

### **Financial Implications**

- 19 The \$1 million funding for the NDRF will be met from the Crown Response Office's 2025/26 baseline. As a forecasted underspend in the departmental output expense appropriation 'Responding to the Abuse in Care Inquiry' for 2024/25 of approximately \$1.520 million relating to the Crown's public apology is available to transfer to 2025/26 and/or 2026/27 [CAB-25-0126.72 refers], meeting the cost of the NDRF from the Crown Response Office's baseline will not impact the Crown Response Office's ability to deliver its 2025/26 work programme. To enable grants to be made to successful applicants, \$1 million needs to be transferred from Vote Public Service to Vote Internal Affairs.
- 20 I propose that the second round of funding of \$2m for the SSRF be drawn down from the tagged operating contingency *Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care* established as part of Budget 2025 [CAB-25-MIN-0126.72 refers]. I also propose Cabinet agree that subsequent policy initiatives that support that Government's response to the Royal Commission and that require funding of \$3 million or less from this tagged contingency, can be approved by the Lead Coordination Minister, Minister of Finance and other relevant appropriation Minister/s in order to draw down funding from the contingency.

### **Legislative Implications**

- 21 The proposals in this paper have no legislative implications.

### **Population Implications**

- 22 Several population groups are over-represented, as both survivors of abuse in care and in the current care system. They include tamariki, rangatahi and pakeke Māori, Pacific Peoples, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Deaf and disabled people (including whaikaha Māori, people who experience mental distress), Takatāpui, Rainbow and MVPFAFF people.

### **Human Rights**

- 23 The proposals in this paper do not have human rights implications.

### **Use of external resources**

- 24 No external resources have been used to prepare the advice in this paper.

### **Consultation**

- 25 The Department of Internal Affairs and The Treasury have been consulted on the proposals in this paper.

## Communications

- 26 Officials are preparing a communications plan to announce the NDRF, subject to Cabinet decisions. The Lead Coordination Minister will announce the additional funding for the SSRF on the National Day of Reflection.

## Proactive Release

- 27 This paper will be proactively published on the Crown Response Office's website with appropriate withholdings under the Official Information Act 1982.

## Recommendations

I recommend that the Committee:

- 1 **note** that during the Crown's apology for abuse in care on 12 November 2024, the Prime Minister announced that a one-off National Remembrance Day would be held on 12 November 2025;
- 2 **note** that the day has been renamed the 'National Day of Reflection';
- 3 **note** that on 19 May 2025, the Crown Response Ministerial Group endorsed the purpose, outcomes and community-led approach to the one-off National Day of Reflection;
- 4 **agree** the Crown will support community-led events by establishing a contestable 'National Day of Reflection Fund' that will be administered by the Department of Internal Affairs;
- 5 **agree** the National Day of Reflection Fund will allocate funding of \$1.000 million from Vote Public Service;
- 6 **agree** the Crown Response Office will finalise the detailed design of the National Day of Reflection Fund, including funding caps for different categories of events, consistent with the purpose, outcomes and community-led approach agreed by the Crown Response Ministerial Group;
- 7 **note** that the Minister of Finance and the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector have agreed to add the following category to the multi-category appropriation 'Community Development and Funding Schemes':

Title	Type	Scope
National Day of Reflection Fund	Non-Departmental Other Expense	This category is limited to providing grants to non-government organisations representing survivors of abuse in care who are organising and/or hosting events and activities as part of the National Day of Reflection on 12 November 2025.

- 8 **approve** the following fiscally neutral adjustments to enable the Department of Internal Affairs to provide community funding for the National Day of Reflection, with no impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m increase/(decrease)			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
<b>Vote Public Service</b> <b>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</b> Departmental Output Expense: Responding to the Abuse in Care Inquiry (funded by revenue Crown)	(1.000)	-	-	-
<b>Vote Internal Affairs</b> <b>Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector</b> Multi Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Community Development and Funding Schemes MCA Non-Departmental Other Expense: National Day of Reflection Fund	1.000	-	-	-

- 9 **agree** that the proposed changes to appropriations for 2025/26 above be included in the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase and any expenses incurred against that new category be met from Imprest Supply;
- 10 **note** that in October 2024, Cabinet agreed to establish a survivor-focused fund, named the 'Survivor Support and Recognition Fund', with the dual purpose of supporting projects by nine local authorities to care for or memorialise unmarked graves associated with psychiatric hospitals, psychopaedic sites, or other sites that were places of care, and initiatives delivered by non-governmental organisations providing direct support to survivors, including survivor-led initiatives [SOU-24-MIN-0129 refers];
- 11 **note** that the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund was provided with \$2.000 million, of which \$1.500 million was allocated for survivor support



initiatives and the remaining \$0.500 million was allocated for nine local authorities who are still finalising their proposals;

- 12 **agree** to provide additional funding of \$2.000 million to enable a second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund to take place in 2025/26;
- 13 **agree** that the Crown Response Office will finalise the detailed design and criteria for the second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund, with the first priority being organisations that did not receive funding in the first round due to the fund being oversubscribed;
- 14 **authorise** the 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 to make any appropriate changes to the parameters and/or eligibility criteria of the first round of the fund;
- 15 **note** that Budget 2025 established a tagged operating contingency *Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care* – Tagged Operating Contingency totalling \$28.375 million over four years [CAB-25-MIN-0126.72 refers];
- 16 **note** that on 9 June 2025 Cabinet agreed to reduce the tagged contingency described in recommendation 15 above by \$7.000 million to provide additional funding for redress payments to survivors of torture at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit [CAB-25-MIN-0190 refers] meaning the total is now \$21.375 million over four years;
- 17 **agree** to a draw down of \$2.000 million from the tagged operating contingency described in recommendation 15 above, to provide for the additional funding requirement of the second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund;
- 18 **approve** the following changes to appropriation to provide additional funding to enable a second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund to take place in 2025/26, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m increase/(decrease)			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
<b>Vote Internal Affairs</b> <b>Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector</b> Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: Community Development and Funding Schemes MCA	2.000	-	-	-



Non-Departmental Other Expense:				
Public Apology for Abuse in Care Fund				

- 19 **agree** that the proposed changes to the appropriation for 2025/26 above be included in the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply;
- 20 **agree** that the expenses incurred under recommendation 18 above be charged against the *Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care – Tagged Operating Contingency* described in recommendation 15 above;
- 21 **note** that following the adjustment detailed in recommendation 18 above, the remaining balances and indicative phasing of the tagged operating contingency described in recommendation 15 above will be:

	\$m			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care – Tagged Operating Contingency	3.344	5.344	5.344	5.343

- 22 **agree** that any new policy proposal relating to the Crown's response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry which requires funding of \$3.000 million or less from the tagged contingency described in recommendation 15, and which has the joint agreement of the Lead Coordination Minister, the Minister of Finance, and other relevant Minister/s with the investment and implementation advice, does not require further Cabinet decisions or approval.

Authorised for lodgement

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

## Annex One: Organisations who have received funding in 2025 from the SSRF

Organisation	What funding is for (summarised)	Sum allocated
Australian and New Zealand Army Corps Mounted Trust	Equine-assisted therapy to support survivors with their mental health, physical rehabilitation, and personal development. Participants gain skills to regulate emotions and enable more positive social interaction.	\$50,000
Canterbury Men's Centre	Collaborative peer and professional support programme for survivors to broaden and strengthen in Canterbury region.	\$50,000
Community House (Whanganui) Association Incorporated	Development of a community advocacy team for the 'Next steps' programme offering support and advocacy for survivors and education for service providers and community to better support survivors.	\$20,000
Downie Stewart Foundation	Allows for approximately 26 people in a residential programme to build self-awareness, confidence, and self-esteem to empower survivors to contribute positively to their whānau, hapū, iwi, and community as a whole.	\$50,000
Gloriavale Leavers' Support Trust	Specialised support network to aid survivors in their recovery from the unique experiences of Gloriavale survivors of abuse. Programme provides practical assistance, counselling, advocacy, and emotional support to build new lives.	\$50,000
Māia Collective	Mana Wāhine provide counselling and workshops, to empower wāhine within their own communities. Programme also provides resources and training to facilitators and peers to build capacity.	\$50,000
Male Survivors Aotearoa	Support for a peer support group of survivors in Ōtautahi,	\$50,000
Male Survivors Bay of Plenty Trust	To provide a range of resources, crisis phone support, advocacy and support for family/whanau members.	\$50,000
Male Survivors Taranaki Trust	Funding will contribute towards the operation of the Purposeful Peer Support programme in the region.	\$50,000
Male Survivors Otago	Funding will contribute towards ongoing operational costs of their peer support programmes in Otago.	\$50,000
Male Survivors Wellington	Funding will enable Male Survivors Wellington to maintain and expand their community-based peer support services in the Wellington Region.	\$50,000
Mental Illness Survivors Team Trust (MIST)	Extension of service outside current hours offering peer support for coping strategies with Mental Health distress and addictions with accessibility support.	\$50,000

Organisation	What funding is for (summarised)	Sum allocated
NZ Collective of Abused in State Care Charitable Trust	Survivor Camp at Epworth Retreat & Recreation Centre, Waikato. Offering cultural connection, peer support, and practical tools for well-being and resilience.	\$50,000
Ōtepoti Dunedin Whānau Refuge	Enable Ōtepoti Dunedin Whānau Refuge to deliver their programme for survivors and whānau who have experienced family violence and trauma.	\$50,000
Papakura Support and Counselling Centre (PSCC) Incorporated	Services to survivors include trauma-informed counselling, educational workshops, and crisis support for survivors of abuse in care and their whānau.	\$47,500
Presbyterian Support (Upper South Island)	Support work with survivors who were former residents of the Little Acre Children's Home in Christchurch.	\$48,981
Rangitikei District Council	Fund for 119 small recumbents/plaques of unmarked graves, a memorial seat at Mount View Cemetery, a memorial headstone at the Lake Hospital site and District Council and memorial services.	\$50,000
Rise and Thrive Support Limited	Funding will support engaging and connecting survivors through the Survivors on Ribbons initiative allowing survivors to have a voice in a safe place and create awareness throughout New Zealand.	\$50,000
State Abuse Advocates limited	Increasing public awareness of state abuse and human rights violations and provision of legal and emotional support for survivors.	\$50,000
Tauawhi Charitable Trust	Initiative to raise awareness and provide practical support to survivors, particularly in the Tairāwhiti and East Coast region.	\$50,000
Tautoko Tāne Te Tai Tokerau	Funding will contribute to ongoing operation of the group's peer support service for male survivors.	\$50,000
Tautoko Tane Waikato	Funds will enable Tautoko Tane Waikato's peer support groups to connect and share their experiences through the grant recipient's Mobile Chat Room space, which reaches survivors in isolated areas.	\$50,000
Te Roopū Toiora Charitable Trust	Funding will enable Te Roopū Toiora Charitable Trust to create a second event/exhibition of He Kura Toiora, this time in Auckland.	\$50,000

Organisation	What funding is for (summarised)	Sum allocated
The Whaiora Whānui Trust	Funds will help to support the delivery of He Ara Tau – A Path to Peace, a kaupapa Māori programme for survivors of abuse in care in the Wairarapa region.	\$50,000
West Auckland Mental Health Support Trust	Funds will support the grant recipient to host a West Auckland survivor led 'Hub' including a safe space, resources, and peer staff (with survivor experience).	\$50,000
VisAble	The project will focus on hard-to-reach individuals who have been unable provide feedback to date due to communication barriers and systemic restriction using feedback to inform and improve our services	\$50,000
VOYCE - Whakarongo Mai	VOYCE will convene a group of young survivors to identify and co-design solutions and supports tailored for the VOYCE community.	\$50,000

Proactive release - open and transparent government





# Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee

## Minute of Decision

*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.*

### Supporting a Community-led Approach to the National Day of Reflection and Next Steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund

**Portfolio** Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

On 23 July 2025, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee:

- 1 **noted** that during the Crown's apology for abuse in care on 12 November 2024, the Prime Minister announced that a National Remembrance Day would be held on 12 November 2025;
- 2 **noted** that the day has been renamed the 'National Day of Reflection';
- 3 **noted** that on 19 May 2025, the Crown Response Ministerial Group endorsed the purpose, outcomes and community-led approach to the one-off National Day of Reflection;
- 4 **agreed** that the Crown will support community-led events by establishing a contestable 'National Day of Reflection Fund' that will be administered by the Department of Internal Affairs;
- 5 **agreed** that funding of \$1.000 million from Vote Public Service is allocated to the National Day of Reflection Fund;
- 6 **agreed** the Crown Response Office will finalise the detailed design of the National Day of Reflection Fund, including funding caps for different categories of events, consistent with the purpose, outcomes and community-led approach agreed by the Crown Response Ministerial Group;
- 7 **noted** that the Minister of Finance and the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector have agreed to add the following category to the multi-category appropriation 'Community Development and Funding Schemes':

Title	Type	Scope
National Day of Reflection Fund	Non-Departmental Other Expense	This category is limited to providing grants to non-government organisations representing survivors of abuse in care who are organising and/or hosting events and activities as part of the National Day of Reflection on 12 November 2025.

- 8 **approved** the following fiscally neutral adjustments to enable the Department of Internal Affairs to provide community funding for the National Day of Reflection, with no impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m increase/(decrease)			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
<b>Vote Public Service</b>				
<b>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</b>				
Departmental Output Expense:				
Responding to the Abuse in Care Inquiry	(1.000)	-	-	-
(funded by revenue Crown)				
<b>Vote Internal Affairs</b>				
<b>Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector</b>				
Multi Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Community Development and Funding Schemes MCA				
Non-Departmental Other Expense:				
National Day of Reflection Fund	1.000	-	-	-

- 9 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2025/26 above be included in the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase and any expenses incurred against that new category be met from Imprest Supply;
- 10 **noted** that in October 2024, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee agreed to establish a survivor-focused fund, named the 'Survivor Support and Recognition Fund', with the dual purpose of supporting projects by nine local authorities to care for or memorialise unmarked graves associated with psychiatric hospitals, psychopaedic sites, or other sites that were places of care, and initiatives delivered by non-governmental organisations providing direct support to survivors, including survivor-led initiatives [SOU-24-MIN-0129];
- 11 **noted** that the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund was provided with \$2.000 million, of which \$1.500 million was allocated for survivor support initiatives and the remaining \$0.500 million was allocated for nine local authorities who are still finalising their proposals;
- 12 **agreed** to provide additional funding of \$2.000 million to enable a second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund to take place in 2025/26;



- 13 **agreed** that the Crown Response Office will finalise the detailed design and criteria for the second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund, with the first priority being organisations that did not receive funding in the first round due to the fund being oversubscribed;
- 14 **authorised** the 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 (the Lead Minister) to make any appropriate changes to the parameters and/or eligibility criteria of the first round of the Fund;
- 15 **noted** that Budget 2025 established a tagged operating contingency 'Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care' (the tagged operating contingency) totalling \$28.375 million over four years [CAB-25-MIN-0126.72];
- 16 **noted** that in June 2025, Cabinet agreed to reduce the tagged contingency by \$7.000 million to provide additional funding for redress payments to survivors of torture at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit [CAB-25-MIN-0190], meaning the total is now \$21.375 million over four years;
- 17 **agreed** to a partial draw-down of \$2.000 million from the tagged operating contingency to provide for the additional funding requirement of the second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund;
- 18 **approved** the following changes to appropriation to provide additional funding to enable a second round of the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund to take place in 2025/26, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m increase/(decrease)			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
<b>Vote Internal Affairs</b>				
<b>Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector</b>				
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:				
Community Development and Funding Schemes	2.000	-	-	-
MCA				
Non-Departmental Other Expense:				
Public Apology for Abuse in Care Fund				

- 19 **agreed** that the changes to the appropriation for 2025/26 above be included in the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply;
- 20 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraph 18 above be charged against the tagged operating contingency;

- 21 **noted** that following the adjustment detailed in paragraph 18 above, the remaining balances and indicative phasing of the tagged operating contingency above will be:

	\$m			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29 & Outyears
Implementing the Government's Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care – Tagged Operating Contingency	3.344	5.344	5.344	5.343

- 22 **agreed** that any new policy proposal relating to the Crown's response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry, which requires funding of \$3.000 million or less from the tagged contingency, and which has the joint agreement of the Lead Minister, the Minister of Finance, and other relevant Ministers as appropriate with the investment and implementation advice, does not require further Cabinet decisions or approval.

Jenny Vickers  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon David Seymour  
Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon Nicola Willis  
Hon Simeon Brown  
Hon Erica Stanford  
Hon Paul Goldsmith  
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)  
Hon Mark Mitchell  
Hon Tama Potaka  
Hon Matt Doocey  
Hon Nicole McKee  
Hon Casey Costello  
Hon Penny Simmonds  
Hon Karen Chhour  
Hon Nicola Grigg  
Hon Scott Simpson

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for SOU



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### Report of the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee: Period Ended 25 July 2025

On 28 July 2025, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee for the period ended 25 July 2025:

SOU-25-MIN-0090

**Supporting a Community-led Approach to the National Day of Reflection and Next Steps for the Survivor Support and Recognition Fund**  
Portfolio: Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

CONFIRMED

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet