



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Minister of Police

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Minister of Internal Affairs
Associate Minister of Transport
Chief Parliamentary Counsel
Legislation Coordinator
Secretary, LEG

Policing Bill: Approval for Introduction

On 17 December 2007, following reference from the Cabinet Legislation Committee, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that the Policing Bill (the Bill) holds a category 5 priority on the 2007 Legislation Programme (drafting instructions to be provided to Parliamentary Counsel Office in 2007);
- 2 **noted** that the Bill provides a contemporary legislative platform for the delivery of policing services, and sets out to achieve two fundamental tasks:
 - 2.1 to confirm and strengthen Police governance, accountability and organisational arrangements in a way suitable for a contemporary age;
 - 2.2 to improve the Police's effectiveness, especially by updating human resource management provisions, and establishing a clear framework for the exercise of policing powers by particular Police staff;

- 3 **agreed** that the Bill include a statement of the following principles:
- 3.1 principled, effective, and efficient policing services are a cornerstone of a free and democratic society under the rule of law;
 - 3.2 effective policing relies on a wide measure of public support and confidence;
 - 3.3 policing services are provided under a national framework but also have a local community focus;
 - 3.4 policing services are provided in a manner that respects human rights;
 - 3.5 policing services are provided independently and impartially;
 - 3.6 in providing policing services every Police employee is required to act professionally, ethically, and with integrity;
- 4 **approved** for introduction the Policing Bill [PCO 8297/14], subject to the final approval of the government caucuses and sufficient support in the House of Representatives;
- 5 **agreed** that the Bill be introduced on 18 December 2007;
- 6 **agreed** that the government propose that the Bill be:
- 6.1 referred to the Law and Order Committee for consideration;
 - 6.2 enacted by 30 June 2008.

Secretary of the Cabinet

Reference: CAB (07) 664; LEG Min (07) 27/2

Secretary's note: This minute replaces LEG Min (07) 27/2. Cabinet agreed to a recommendation from LEG relating to paragraph 3 and amended paragraphs 4 and 5 of the LEG minute.