

25 January 2017

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Public Finance (Sustainable Development Indicators) Amendment Bill

1. We have considered whether the Public Finance (Sustainable Development Indicators) Amendment Bill ('the Bill'), a member's Bill in the name of James Shaw MP, is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act').
2. The Bill amends the Public Finance Act 1989 ('the Act'). The purpose of the Bill is to ensure that the New Zealand Government, in fulfilling its macro-economic obligations under the Act, balances economic opportunity with environmental responsibility. The amendments aim to achieve this by supplementing the existing economic indicators used in macro-economic policy making with a set of sustainable development indicators and principles.
3. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

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