

**Hon Paul Goldsmith**  
Minister of Justice

**Proactive release – Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Paul Goldsmith – February 2024**

Date of issue: 12 April 2024

The following documents have been proactively released in accordance with Cabinet Office Circular CO (23) 4, subject to some redactions consistent with the grounds under the Official Information Act 1982.

No.	Document	Comments
1	<b>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Paul Goldsmith - February 2024</b> <i>Cabinet paper</i> Office of the Minister of Justice 18 March 2023	Released in full.
2	<b>Cabinet Minute: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Paul Goldsmith – February 2024</b> <i>Cabinet Minute</i> Cabinet Office Meeting date: 18 March 2024	Released in full.

## **In Confidence**

Office of the Minister of Justice

Chair, Cabinet

### **Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Paul Goldsmith - February 2024**

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Melbourne, Australia from 22 February to 24 February 2024 to attend the Standing Council of Attorneys-General meeting and additional bilateral meetings with my Australian counterparts.

#### **Report**

- 1 I travelled to Melbourne to attend the Standing Council of Attorneys-General meeting on 23 February. This meeting is attended by the Australian Attorney-General, the Attorney-General of each Australian state and territory, and New Zealand's Minister of Justice. Its purpose is to support a trans-Tasman focus on maintaining and promoting best practice in law reform.
- 2 Some of the agenda items discussed at the meeting include:
  - 2.1 progress updates on Australia's national targets for reducing adult and youth offending;
  - 2.2 plans to amend anti-vilification laws in Victoria;
  - 2.3 the regulation of biometrics and related technologies; and
  - 2.4 Australia's compliance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture.
- 3 Most of the agenda items were specific to Australia, but it was valuable to learn more about Australia's work in each area and how we may be able to learn from each other's experiences.
- 4 While in Melbourne I also took the opportunity to meet with Australian counterparts across my portfolios. These meetings were an opportunity to become acquainted, have an early conversation about our priorities in the sector, and to learn about initiatives in each state that align with my priorities.
- 5 Specifically, I met with the following people and discussed:
  - 5.1 Hon Colin Brooks, Minister for Creative Industries (Vic) – priorities in the creative industries sector
  - 5.2 Hon Anthony Carbines, Minister for Police and Crime Prevention, and Hon Enver Erdogan, Minister of Corrections, Youth Justice and Victim

Support (Vic) – youth justice trends and initiatives, prison enterprise and anti-vilification laws

- 5.3 Hon Mark Dreyfus, Commonwealth Attorney-General (Cth) – supporting courts in the Pacific, the Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Act 2021, and addressing court delays
  - 5.4 Hon Yvette D’Ath, Queensland Attorney-General (Qld) – youth justice trends and initiatives
  - 5.5 Hon John Quigley, Western Australia Attorney-General (WA) – addressing gang harm and the success of relevant policies in Western Australia
- 6 These meetings were particularly beneficial to understand the pressing issues in different Australian states and how they are responding to them. It was also beneficial to learn about the successes and challenges of initiatives we are also about to implement in New Zealand, like the ban on gang insignia which has been in place in Western Australia for some time.
- 7 I also received a guided tour of the National Gallery of Victoria, including the work of New Zealand-born artist Richard Lewer, and visited Cooks’ Cottage.

**Proactive release**

- 8 I propose to proactively release this paper in whole.

**Recommendation**

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Minister of Justice



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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*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.*

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### Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Paul Goldsmith - February 2024

Portfolio

Justice

On 18 March 2024, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Paul Goldsmith under CAB-24-SUB-0078 on his travel, from 22 to 24 February 2024, to Melbourne, Australia to attend the Standing Council of Attorneys-General meeting.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet