30 April 2020

Hon David Parker, Attorney-General

Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Remuneration Authority (COVID-19 Measures) Amendment Bill

1. We have considered whether the Remuneration Authority (COVID-19 Measures) Amendment Bill ('the Bill') is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act').

2. We have not yet received a final version of the Bill. This advice has been prepared in relation to the latest version of the Bill (PCO22895/7.0). We will provide you with further advice if the final version includes amendments that affect the conclusions of this advice.

3. The Bill amends the Remuneration Authority Act 1977 to enable the Remuneration Authority to temporarily reduce the pay of certain leaders in the Executive and wider public sector by up to 20% for up to six months.

4. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

Jeff Orr
Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Legal Counsel