



Cabinet Economic Development Committee


Minute of Decision

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Improving Animal Welfare and Enhancing New Zealand's Reputation as a Responsible Exporter of Live Animals

Portfolio Agriculture

On 7 August 2019, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that public concerns about the welfare of livestock being exported are growing, and that consumers around the world are increasingly focused on the animal welfare standards;
- 2 **noted** that once livestock has departed New Zealand, there is little ability to influence the treatment of animals at their final destinations;
- 3 **noted** that exports of livestock (cattle, sheep, goats and deer) have been an essential part of many of New Zealand's trading relationships, and that in 2018 earned export revenues of \$51 million;
- 4 **Trade relations**

- 5 **directed** the Ministry for Primary Industries to lead a review of the livestock export trade to improve the welfare of livestock being exported and enhance New Zealand's reputation;
- 6 **noted** that subject to further advice from officials, the Minister of Agriculture intends to circulate a draft Cabinet paper and draft discussion paper for cross party consultation by the end of 2019.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

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Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Phil Twyford
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon James Shaw

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV

Hard-copy distribution:

Minister of Agriculture

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