Hon Tracey Martin
Minister for Children
Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Seniors
Associate Minister of Education

20 JUL 2018

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of State Services
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Dear Minister

Government Inquiry into the Appointment Process for a Deputy Commissioner of Police: Member fee

Background

On 9 July 2018, Cabinet agreed to establish a Government Inquiry into the Appointment Process for a Deputy Commissioner of Police (the Inquiry) under the Inquiries Act 2013 [CAB-18-MIN-0334 refers]. It also agreed that the Inquiry will have one member and that the final fee for this member would be confirmed between us, once that member is confirmed.

As the Appointing Minister for the Inquiry, I write to seek your agreement to the fee for the Inquiry member. Cabinet Office Circular CO (12) 6, Fees framework for members appointed to bodies in which the Crown has an interest (the Fees Framework), guides the payment of fees to, amongst others, the members of Government Inquiries. As you know, all fees for such inquiries must be referred to you as Minister for State Services for consideration as an exception.

Purpose

The purpose of the Inquiry is to examine the process managed by the State Services Commission in appointing a Deputy Commissioner of Police, to ensure Ministers are fully informed to make sound decisions and recommendations. In particular, it will examine what information officials can reasonably be expected to be able to obtain about candidates; and what information Ministers can reasonably expect to receive, in order to make sound decisions and recommendations. The Inquiry will examine, identify and report on the adequacy of the process that led to the appointment.

Skills and attributes of the member

The skills, experience and attributes sought for the member were:

- Proven ability to lead system-level reviews;
- Knowledge of, or experience in, examining systems or processes;
- Knowledge of the machinery of government and government processes;
- High personal integrity and no irreconcilable conflicts of interest;
Experience working in the public eye without being unduly influenced by public comment; and

A focus on delivery and the ability to work to a tight reporting timeframe.

Cabinet authorised the Acting Prime Minister, the Attorney-General or Acting Attorney-General, and myself as Appointing Minister, to have the Power to Act to take decisions on the appointment of the Inquiry member. Subject to our collective agreement, the preferred candidate for the role is Dr Pauline Kingi.

Dr Kingi is a highly experienced corporate director and has extensive experience in the public sector. She brings legal and systems review expertise which will be invaluable to the work of the Inquiry.

Remuneration

I seek your approval to agree fees of $1400 per day for the member. In proposing these fees I have taken into account a number of factors:

- the inquiry is likely to attract considerable public attention;
- the inquiry will involve analysing sensitive issues and needs a member with high investigative skills and knowledge of examining systems and processes;
- the expected workload for a short turnaround inquiry and the personal demands involved; and
- that the fees are broadly consistent with those paid to members of previous inquiries.

The Department has undertaken probity and conflict of interest declarations from Dr Kingi and has not identified any issues with her appointment.

I seek your agreement to the proposed fees, and welcome your prompt reply.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Hon Tracey Martin
Minister of Internal Affairs