



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI



Ministry
for Culture
& Heritage



Hon Carmel Sepuloni

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Hon Stuart Nash

Minister for Regional and Economic Development

March 2022

Date: 2 March 2022

Title: Proactive Release of Cabinet Material: Reviewing the Government's Investment in the Screen Sector

Author: Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment

These documents have been proactively released by Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Hīkina Whakatutuki, Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment on behalf of Hon Carmel Sepuloni Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, and Hon Stuart Nash Minister for Regional and Economic Development. This package includes the Cabinet Papers and Cabinet Minutes as listed below.

Title: Cabinet Paper 'Shaping the Crown's approach to the New Zealand screen sector'

DEV-21-MIN-0083 Cabinet Economic Development Committee Minute of Decision 'Shaping the Crown's approach to the New Zealand screen sector'

Cabinet Paper 'Reviewing the Government's investment in the screen sector'

DEV-21-MIN-0242 Cabinet Economic Development Committee Minute of Decision 'Reviewing the Government's investment in the screen sector'

CAB-21-MIN-0507.01 'Reviewing the Government's investment in the screen sector'

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

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9(2)(b)(ii) to avoid unreasonably prejudicing commercial positions

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Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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.

Reviewing the Government's Investment in the Screen Sector

Portfolios **Arts, Culture and Heritage / Economic and Regional Development**

On 29 November 2021, following reference from the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV), Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that on 14 April 2021, DEV invited the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage and the Minister for Economic and Regional Development (Joint Ministers) to report back by September 2021 on:
 - 1.1 the objectives for Crown investment in, and support for, the screen sector;
 - 1.2 the scope of a potential review of Crown support for the sector to lift value and improve discretion over this investment;

[DEV-21-MIN-0083]
- 2 **noted** that government policy settings have been successful in growing the screen sector, but that there are now challenges facing the sector that require a different approach;
- 3 **agreed** that the government's objectives for investment in, and support for, the screen sector be to:
 - 3.1 support the development of a more balanced, resilient and sustainable New Zealand screen sector, being one that is less vulnerable to global shifts in incentives, with more diversified business models, including a cohort of New Zealand businesses at scale operating at the global frontier, and creating a diverse range of content including high quality New Zealand productions;
 - 3.2 support improved conditions, pay and career pathways for New Zealanders in the screen sector, including enabling a growing number of New Zealanders to take on higher paid roles on and off the screen;
 - 3.3 improve social cohesion by supporting the development of New Zealand content on screen that reflects the diversity of New Zealand and reaches a broad audience;
 - 3.4 maximise the benefits generated to the wider New Zealand economy from the screen sector, including through driving innovation, attracting global talent, building New Zealand's global brand, leveraging long-term benefits from screen production activity, and audience engagement with New Zealand content;

- 4 **noted** that the government's obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi apply to each of the objectives and are fundamental to their delivery;
- 5 **agreed** that Joint Ministers take forward a review (the screen sector funding review) that considers the policy settings for direct funding to the screen sector from the Arts, Culture and Heritage and the Economic and Regional Development portfolios, with specific focus on a review of the New Zealand Screen Production Grant (Domestic and International);
- 6 **noted** that depending on the outcome from the screen sector funding review, a subsequent review of the New Zealand Film Commission may be undertaken;
- 7 **noted** that the cost of the screen sector funding review will be met from within Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment baselines;
- 8 **agreed** to the terms of reference for the screen sector funding review, attached to the paper under DEV-21-SUB-0242, subject to any minor or editorial changes that may be approved by Joint Ministers;
- 9 **authorised** Joint Ministers to take decisions on the announcements relating to the screen sector funding review;
- 10 **invited** Joint Ministers to report back to DEV before the end of the third quarter of 2022, ahead of any formal public consultation;
- 11 **invited** Joint Ministers to report back to DEV before mid-2023 with:
- 11.1 final advice on any changes to the New Zealand Screen Production Grant and other direct funding as relevant;
- 11.2 advice on whether a review of the New Zealand Film Commission is required;
- 12 **noted** that the review of screen sector funding will acknowledge the links between the screen and gaming sectors;
- 13 **noted** that development of the interactive media sector in New Zealand (including gaming) will continue to be considered through the Digital Technologies Industry Transformation Plan (ITP);
- 14 **noted** that the gaming and interactive media sector is growing faster than TV/film production internationally, and that any future review of the New Zealand Film Commission or future investment should take into account the changing means of developing and consuming screen content.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Secretary's Note: This minute replaces DEV-21-MIN-0242. Cabinet added paragraphs 12-14.