



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of State Services
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Dear Minister

Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction – Members' fees

On 29 November 2017, Cabinet Business Committee agreed in principle [CBC-17-MIN-0029 refers] to establish a Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction (the Inquiry) under the Inquiries Act 2013. A report back to formally establish the Inquiry is going to Cabinet on Tuesday 23 January 2018 including members' fees. That report back will also confirm the Chair and five other members I intend to appoint.

As the appointing Minister for the Inquiry, I write to seek your agreement to Inquiry members' fees. 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 Chair and members of Government Inquiries. All fees for such Inquiries must be referred to you as Minister of State Services for consideration as an exception.

I seek your approval to agree fees of \$1400.00 per day for the Inquiry Chair and \$975.00 per day for the members.

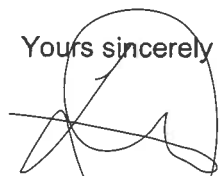
In proposing this level of fee I have taken into account a number of factors:

- i. the Inquiry is likely to attract considerable domestic attention and potentially international attention;
- ii. the Inquiry will involve analysing complex material, sensitive issues and needs a range of members with diverse and high calibre skills;
- iii. the Inquiry members' expected workload, operating timeframes and the extensive personal demands involved with a complex Inquiry; and
- iv. that the fees are broadly consistent with those paid to members of previous inquiries.

Declarations of candidate availability, interests and probity are being undertaken at present for each member. If any proposed members are public servants that will be managed in accordance with guidance set out in *the Fees Framework*.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'David Clark', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Hon Dr David Clark
Minister of Health