



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

National Security Long-term Insights Briefing

Consultation on proposed briefing topic:

**Engaging an increasingly diverse Aotearoa
New Zealand on national security risks,
challenges and opportunities**

October 2021

Foreword

Tēnā koutou katoa

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa (Let us keep close together, not wide apart)

National security is of growing importance for all New Zealanders. In recent years we have seen stark reminders of risks and challenges, both at home and for people living or travelling overseas. Our communities have experienced significant harm from violent extremism, the damaging impact of cyber-attacks on our business, banking and health sectors, the ongoing danger from organised criminals and the impacts of mis- and dis-information. These affect not only those directly involved, but our wider sense of safety and security.

Governments have a responsibility to be open and transparent about national security risks and opportunities, to learn and hear from communities about risks they face and the emerging challenges they see, and to be responsive. The process to develop a National Security Long-term Insights Briefing is an opportunity to do this.

This consultation document is the first stage in creating a National Security Long-term Insights Briefing, a joint briefing from the Security and Intelligence Board agencies, led by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It will be one of many Long-term Insights Briefings that government departments publish in mid-2022 to look at the future.

The National Security Long-term Insights Briefing will present free and frank analysis on national security risks, challenges, and opportunities. It will outline threats we are likely to face, and the issues society may need to face and discuss. This consultation document is the start of a series of engagements on these matters.

We are committed to working with communities to make Aotearoa New Zealand safer and more secure.



Tony Lynch
Chair, Security and Intelligence Board

Part One: Who we are and what a Long-term Insights Briefing is

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa (Let us keep close together, not wide apart)

Our Whakataukī

1. Our Whakataukī for the National Security Long-term Insights Briefing is: *Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa (Let us keep close together, not wide apart)*. This speaks to the importance of keeping connected, of maintaining relationships and dialogue so that we can move forward together.

Long-term Insights Briefings are a way for New Zealanders to help government think about the future

2. Long-term Insights Briefings are a new way for government agencies to better understand the issues that matter for the future wellbeing of New Zealanders. Long-term Insights Briefings will provide information and ideas about the future for public discussion and help the public contribute to future government decisions.
3. Public engagement through the Long-term Insights Briefing is a welcome opportunity for government to engage, but also an obligation. Government departments must produce an LTIB at least once every three years.¹ We must consult the public on the topics and the draft report.

Agencies are working together on a National Security Long-term Insights Briefing

4. Nine agencies are working together to create a National Security Long-term Insights Briefing:
 - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
 - Government Communications Security Bureau
 - Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
 - Ministry of Defence
 - New Zealand Customs Service
 - New Zealand Defence Force
 - New Zealand Police
 - New Zealand Security Intelligence Service.

¹ Further Information on **Long-term Insights Briefings** can be found at: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/our-work/long-term-insights-briefings/>

Opportunities to contribute to the National Security Long-term Insights Briefing

5. There will be a series of opportunities for the public to provide feedback as we develop this briefing:
 - *October 2021* – consultation on the proposed topic.
 - *October 2021 to March 2022* – targeted public engagement throughout the development of the briefing.
 - *March to April 2022* – public consultation on the draft briefing.
 - *May 2022* – integrating feedback from consultation and finalisation of briefing.
 - *June to July 2022* – *final briefing provided to Ministers and Select Committee(s)*.
6. This document is your first opportunity to contribute to the National Security Long-term Insights Briefing. Your feedback now will help us better shape the topic and questions we cover in our report.

Our commitments to you

7. Through the briefing development process, we are committed to engaging in a way that:
 - *reflects our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi*: including making engagement as accessible as we can for communities, understanding how tāngata whenua may wish to be involved, and building tikanga Māori into our engagement.
 - *reflects a broad range of needs and interests*: we will translate our material into multiple languages and formats and engage in a variety of ways.
 - *is transparent and creates safe spaces*: for individuals, groups and communities to freely engage and share their views, in ways that are appropriate for them.
 - *is responsive to your feedback*.

Part Two: We want to hear from you about our proposed topic

Our proposed National Security Long-term Insights Briefing topic is:

“Engaging an increasingly diverse Aotearoa New Zealand on national security risks, challenges and opportunities”.

8. We have a starting point for this topic and you now have an opportunity to help us further refine the issues we explore as part of this work.

As a first step, please help us by answering these questions:

1. Are there any themes or focus areas that should be a priority for this Long-term Insights Briefing?

National security now and in the future

2. What are the key national security concerns, risks and challenges you have for your family, workplace and community *now*?
3. What security risks and challenges concern you for the *future*?
4. What types of conversations do we need to have now, to better prepare us for the future and who should be involved?

Engagement

5. Have you engaged or communicated with any government agencies on national security issues in the past? What went well or could have been better?
6. What could the government do to further build trust and confidence with you, your family/whānau and community?
7. If you have had positive engagement with government agencies in the past, what made it positive?
8. How could agencies in national security be more responsive to the public?

Follow-up

9. Can we contact you again to seek further input on the briefing?
10. What method do you prefer for future engagement on the briefing?
11. Is there anything else you want us to know?

Find out more

9. If you would like to understand more about national security, or why we are considering this topic, there is more information in Parts Three and Four of this document. You can find out the different ways to make a submission in Part Five.

Part Three: Why this topic?

Conversations about national security matter

The government's goal for national security is for New Zealanders to be able to go about their daily business confidently and free from fear, and able to make the most of opportunities to advance their ways of life.

10. Governments are responsible for providing a safe, secure, and resilient Aotearoa New Zealand for all. National security also relies on people feeling informed, empowered and able to play a role in keeping us safe.
11. Our communities have experienced difficult and traumatic events over the past few years. These events can undermine our national security, prosperity, and wellbeing.
12. We acknowledge the unique role of iwi/Māori as tangata whenua and the Crown's Treaty partner in identifying and addressing security challenges. We also acknowledge the role played by our communities, iwi/Māori in particular, in supporting public safety and security during a range of events, including the Whakaari/White Island eruption, the Christchurch mosque attacks, COVID-19, and numerous severe weather events.

Our world is changing

13. National security risks, challenges and opportunities continue to change and evolve. Aotearoa New Zealand depends on international organisations and countries "playing by the rules" on topics as diverse as trade, defence, and environment – but this does not always happen.
14. Threats from terrorism, trans-national organised crime, mis- and disinformation, and foreign interference can undermine New Zealanders' ways of life. Global trends like climate change, increasing digital connectivity and new technologies are increasingly changing our national security landscape.
15. We need to better understand how the risks and opportunities we face are likely to change, and what the implications of this are.

How should the government work with our communities?

16. Our demographics are changing. Aotearoa New Zealand is already a diverse nation, in terms of ethnicity, culture, age groups, and life and work histories. We expect that diversity to increase in the coming decade.
17. This means governments need to work harder to empower people to engage in informed, meaningful, and inclusive conversations about national security risks.

18. The Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on the Christchurch masjidain² (the Royal Commission) highlighted the need to improve conversations about national security. Many of the Royal Commission's recommendations sought to improve the government's transparency and engagement with the New Zealand public on national security.
19. The current Government has listened to many communities since the Royal Commission Report was produced. We have heard that:
 - *engagement has not always resulted in clear benefit for communities, who haven't seen how agencies responded to their feedback;*
 - *communities want to contribute, but this can be hard, especially when people give up their time for free; and*
 - *some groups may not trust the security and intelligence agencies or may feel excluded from national security conversations, based on their past experiences.*

² See the report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry for more information:
<https://christchurchattack.royalcommission.nz/the-report/findings-and-recommendations/part-9-social-cohesion-and-embracing-diversity/>

Part Four: National security

What does the Government mean by “national security”?

20. One of the most important responsibilities of any government is to ensure the security and sovereignty of the nation. This includes protecting the agencies and institutions that support confidence, good decision-making, and prosperity.
21. Government’s responsibility for national security involves balancing interests that are: short-and long-term, domestic and external, public and private, financial and non-financial. Governments need to look at a wide range of risks to our country and people.
22. Aotearoa New Zealand takes an ‘all hazards – all risks’ approach to national security. We think about the risk from a variety of natural and human-made hazards as well as more traditional national security threats. Any of these could significantly disrupt our security and prosperity.

Hazards, threats and risks

23. New Zealand’s national security system aims to use evidence and expertise to anticipate nationally significant risks³ and reduce their likelihood and impact. It ensures we are prepared to respond and recover from events.

“Hazards” include any source of potential harm. These often occur naturally, such as earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, or diseases. Other hazards are created by humans, such as toxic substances or food safety issues.

“Threats” refer to a person intentionally causing damage or harm. These could involve weapons (potentially chemical, biological, or nuclear), harmful use of technology, or people acting secretly. Threats may be driven by people with political, economic, or ideological motives.

“Risk” is the combination of the likelihood of a hazard or threat occurring, and the consequences on the things we value. The consequences could affect people’s safety, our international reputation, the economy, buildings, infrastructure, or nature.

³ A nationally significant risk is an uncertain, yet conceivable, event or condition that could have serious, long-term effects on New Zealand’s security and prosperity, requiring significant government intervention to manage.

The parts of the Government involved in national security

24. Managing national security risks is complex. It involves a range of government agencies and other organisations, working together as a National Security System. The system prepares for, and responds to, risks that could cause significant harm or disruption to safety and wellbeing. This includes areas such as border management, responses to cyber-attacks, identifying emerging threats, or a response major earthquake.
25. The National Security System has two boards that govern nationally significant risks. The Hazard Risk Board focusses on the hazard-based risks facing New Zealand, while the Security and Intelligence Board focuses on external threats and intelligence issues. The Security and Intelligence Board is comprised of nine agencies, which are working together to deliver this National Security Long-term Insights Briefing:
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
 - Government Communications Security Bureau
 - Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
 - Ministry of Defence
 - New Zealand Customs Service
 - New Zealand Defence Force
 - New Zealand Police
 - New Zealand Security Intelligence Service.
26. You can find out more about the National Security System from the DPMC website.

This Long-term Insights Briefing is focussed on threat-based risks and challenges

27. For this National Security Long-term Insights Briefing, we are particularly interested in hearing from you about those threat-based national security risks and challenges that:
- you think government hasn't engaged communities well on in the past; and
 - you, or your community may like to have an influence on or are especially concerned about.
28. These might include, *but are not limited to*:
- Security of New Zealand's borders and marine environment.
 - Terrorism and violent extremism.
 - Defence and protection against foreign interference by other countries (for example interference in general elections) and hostile state activity.
 - Cyber threats, online harms and disinformation.
 - Trans-national, and serious organised crime (including the illegal movement of money, goods and people).
 - Emerging technology issues (for example artificial intelligence).
 - International relationships and institutions (such as the United Nations and stability in the Indo-Pacific).

Part Five: How you can contribute

29. We want to hear from you about the proposed National Security Long-term Insights Briefing topic and the specific questions on page 4. You can make a submission in several ways:

- Complete the online survey: <https://consultation.dpmc.govt.nz/long-term-insights-briefing/national-security-long-term-insights-briefing>.
- Email NationalSecurity.LTIB@dpmc.govt.nz with your response to the consultation questions.
- Write a response and mail it to:

National Security Long-term Insights Briefing
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Level 8, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

- Please indicate if you wish to participate in ongoing consultation as we develop the National Security Long-term Insights Briefing.

30. We will bring together and publish a summary of the feedback provided. While we collect submitters' names and contact information, please note that personal contact details will *not* be shared or published.

31. All responses provided may be released under the Official Information Act 1982. If you do not want your response to be published, please note this in your submission together with a reason why your submission should be withheld from publication.