



SSC REPORT

INSERT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Open Government Partnership Update

Date: 19 March 2020

Report No: SSC2020/0054

Contact: Catherine Williams, Deputy Secretary, Integrity, Ethics and Standards

Telephone: 9(2)(a) privacy

	Actions Sought	Due Date
Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of State Services	Note that the start point for the fourth Open Government Partnership (OGP) National Action Plan will shift to July 2021.	3 April 2020

Enclosure: No

Executive Summary

1. The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee, recognising the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on governments and civil society, has decided that members may submit their new action plan in 2021. The committee has also decided that members may also extend the implementation period for their 2018-2020 action plans until 31 August 2021.
2. In light of the OGP announcement and, given the election later this year, we have decided to shift the start point for the fourth National Action Plan to July 2021. We will reconsider our engagement tools, processes and phasing and will update you when we have done so.
3. We will discuss with the lead agencies whether we want to shift completion of (parts of) the current plan till August 2021 and will report back to you on this.

Minister's Office Comments

Comments:	
Date returned to SSC:	

Recommended Action

We recommend that you:

- a **note** that, following a decision by the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee, the start point for the fourth Open Government Partnership (OGP) National Action Plan will shift to July 2021

Yes/No.

- b **note** that we will discuss with the lead agencies whether we want to shift completion of (parts of) the current plan till August 2021 and will report back to you on this

Yes/No.

- c **agree** that the SSC release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree/disagree.



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of State Services

I'd like to start work now on the next plan.
We've learned a lot about how we can
empower people through our COVID-19 response
and I'd like to capture that and have a
much more ambitious plan next time.
CH.

SSC Report: Open Government Partnership Update

Purpose of Report

1. This report updates you on SSC's Open Government Partnership (OGP) work programme following the OGP Steering Committee's decisions in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

OGP Steering Committee Decision

2. The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee, recognising the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on governments and civil society, has decided that members who are expecting to face constraints in implementation and co-creation of action plans and due to submit a new action plan in 2020, may decide to switch to the odd year cohort and submit their new action plan in 2021.
3. The committee has also decided that members that take the above option may also extend the implementation period for their 2018-2020 action plans until 31 August 2021, to address potential delays in implementation.

Extending development of the Fourth National Action Plan

4. In light of the OGP announcement, the possible impacts on agencies and the community and, given the election later this year, we have decided to shift the start point for the fourth National Action Plan to July 2021 (instead of the current start point of July 2020).
5. We have already received approximately 200 ideas for the next plan, including a number of ideas from youth councils in Auckland and Wellington and from an open Wellington workshop. This shift in timing will provide us with more time to extend the phases of the development process and to stimulate greater public involvement.
6. Submitting a new plan in 2021 will also allow us more time to engage agencies in the development of the plan and encourage them to contribute possible proposals for initiatives at the idea development phase.
7. We will reconsider our engagement tools, processes and phasing to take account of OGP's advice that engagement should be digital. We will update you when we have done so.
8. We will discuss with the lead agencies whether we want to shift completion of (parts of) the current plan till August 2021 and will report back to you on this.
9. In the meantime, Government is doing many things already to improve the transparency and inclusiveness of government. Many of the commitments in the current plan involve work that will continue to develop after the plan milestones are delivered. The IRM Researcher has made recommendations in the IRM Design Report about the extension of some commitments. Agencies are considering these recommendations and they may result in on-going work.

10. We are also receiving ideas through the current public engagement process about ways government can work better for the benefit of citizens and we don't need to wait for the next plan to act on some of those.

11. We will continue to report on these initiatives alongside development of the next plan.

RELEASED BY SSC UNDER OUR COMMITMENT TO OPEN GOVERNMENT