

2014 Confidence and Supply Agreement with United Future New Zealand

United Future agrees to provide confidence and supply support for the term of this Parliament to a National-led Government in return for National's agreement to the matters set out in this document.

The agreement between United Future and National builds on the stable and constructive relationship developed between the two parties over the past six years and will continue to be based on good faith and no surprises.

Consultation arrangements

The Government will consult with United Future including on:

- the broad outline of the legislative programme
- key legislative measures
- major policy issues
- broad budget parameters; and
- policy issues and legislative measures to which United Future is likely to be particularly sensitive.

Consultation will occur in a timely fashion to ensure United Future views can be incorporated into final decision-making.

Formal consultation will be managed between the Prime Minister's Office and the Office of the Leader of United Future.

Other co-operation will include:

- access to relevant Ministers
- regular meetings between the Prime Minister and the United Future Leader
- advance notification to the other party of significant announcements by either the Government or United Future, and
- briefings by Ministers and officials on significant issues and issues that are likely to be politically sensitive before any public announcement.

Policy programme

National and United Future have worked together constructively over the past two parliamentary terms to provide stable government and to implement policies to promote a strong economy.

In this parliamentary term, United Future has a number of priorities to progress with the government – the next iteration of the National Medicines Strategy – *Medicines New Zealand* - including the enhanced role of Pharmacists in patient medicines management and primary care; improving water quality in our lakes, rivers and streams; giving recreational fishers more opportunities as acknowledged in National's recently announced recreational fishing reserves policy; and re-affirming the use of public private partnerships for major roading projects where appropriate; among the key ones.

National agrees to work with United Future on these and other policy areas as may be identified from time to time in good faith.

With respect to National's legislative agenda, ministerial offices will work with the office of the United Future Leader on matters to come before the House. United Future will consider its position on each Bill in good faith and on a case-by-case basis and advise the Office of the Prime Minister and the Government Whips.

Executive position

Hon Peter Dunne will be appointed to the positions of Minister of Internal Affairs, Associate Minister of Health and Associate Minister of Conservation. Mr Dunne will be a Minister outside Cabinet.

Mr Dunne will be appointed a member of the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee, Cabinet Social Policy Committee, and the Cabinet Committee on State Sector Reform and Expenditure Control. He will also attend other Cabinet Committees as appropriate.

Ministerial questions

National and United Future agree that National will allocate on a case by case basis question opportunities for Hon Peter Dunne to use in the House.

Speaking slots

National and United Future agree that from time to time on a case-by-case basis Hon Peter Dunne will be allocated a National speaking slot in the House on legislation and other general debates.

Confidentiality

It is agreed that where briefings are provided to United Future, or where United Future is involved in consultative arrangements with regard to legislation, policy or budgetary matters, all such discussions shall be in confidence unless otherwise agreed.

In the event that Government papers are provided to United Future in the course of consultation or briefings they shall be treated as in confidence and shall not be released, or the information used for any public purpose, without the express agreement of the relevant Minister.

In the event that Cabinet or Cabinet committee papers are provided to United Future for the purposes of consultation they shall be provided to a designated person within the Office of the United Future Leader, who will take responsibility for ensuring they are accorded the appropriate degree of confidentiality.

Collective responsibility

Hon Peter Dunne agrees to be bound by collective responsibility in relation to his portfolios. When he speaks about issues within his portfolio responsibilities he will speak for the Government, representing the Government's position in relation to those responsibilities. When he speaks about matters outside his portfolio responsibilities, however, he may speak as Leader of United Future, or as the Member of Parliament for Ohariu.

He will support the Government's position in all matters that are the subject of confidence and supply votes.

Where there has been full participation in the development of a policy initiative outside of any portfolio responsibility held by Hon Peter Dunne, and that participation has led to an agreed position, it is expected that all parties to this agreement will publicly support the process and the outcome.

Cabinet Manual

Hon Peter Dunne agrees to be bound by the Cabinet Manual in the exercise of his Ministerial responsibilities and, in particular, agrees to be bound by the provisions in the Cabinet Manual on the conduct, public duty, and personal interests of Ministers.

Procedural motions

United Future agrees that it will support the Government on procedural motions in the House and in Select Committees, unless United Future has previously advised that such support is not forthcoming. The Government agrees that it will operate a no-surprises policy in terms of procedural motions it intends to put before the House or a Select Committee.

Dated: 29 September 2014

Rt Hon John Key
National Leader

Hon Peter Dunne MP
United Future Leader