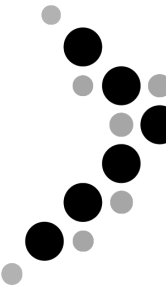


1 December 2020

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

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Re: InternetNZ briefings to incoming ministers

Dear Prime Minister

We have provided briefings to three of your recently appointed ministers. These briefings set out the Internet issues we think the Government needs to pay most attention to over the next three years, and that we will be most engaged in.

The portfolios we have focused on are:

- Digital Economy and Communications
- Internal Affairs
- Broadcasting and Media

We support government work to deliver the benefits of the Internet to New Zealanders

The issues we have raised include:

- **Digital inclusion:** we raise the areas most in need of government investment (affordable connectivity and skills) and the need for cross government coordination.
- **The media review:** this review is an opportunity to think about desired outcomes for the information ecosystem as a whole, including new issues that people and society are facing from conduct and content online. We recommend cross government effort and community engagement in the scoping process and beyond.
- **Internet filtering:** we strongly recommend that proposed filtering provisions be removed from the Bill amending the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act.
- **The digital ministers group:** we welcome this opportunity for coordination on digital economy issues and recommend that digital inclusion be one of the group's first priorities. We think the involvement of the ministers responsible for education, social development and health will be essential.
- **Social licence and community comfort:** we encourage more community engagement on government use of digital technology, and furthering the implementation of protections like the Algorithm Charter, and human rights impact assessments.
- **International engagement:** the borderless nature of the Internet means that we need to work internationally to develop cohesive responses to online issues. New Zealand has a current international profile that would support continued leadership in this area.

We have offered to assist your ministers with their work on these issues and have positive working relationships with the relevant officials.

**Helping New Zealanders
harness the power
of the Internet.**

We look forward to working on these issues with your government

As Prime Minister we hope you will keep a close eye on these issues and support the work of the Digital Ministers Group. Anything that you or your officials in DPMC can do to strengthen the coordination and focus across government on the broad set of “Internet policy issues” will help New Zealand benefit more from the Internet’s possibilities, and contribute more to its ongoing development and improvement in regional and global forums.

With best wishes for this new term in government.

Ngā mihi nui,



Jordan Carter
Chief Executive



Kim Connolly-Stone
Policy Director