

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

**NATIONAL EREBUS MEMORIAL – AUGUST PROGRESS REPORT,
 AND CURRENT ISSUES**

Date:	23 August 2018	Priority:	High
Security classification:	Sensitive	Reference:	BR2018/471

Minister	Action Sought	Deadline
Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern Arts, Culture and Heritage	<p>Note recent and upcoming work on the National Erebus Memorial project;</p> <p>Agree to the suggested course of action with respect to some aspects of the project, to enable work to continue;</p> <p>Out of scope of the request</p> <p>Out of scope of the request</p>	27 August 2018

Contacts			
Name	Position	Contact	1 st Contact
Tamsin Evans	Group Manager, Delivery	9 (2) (a)	
Sarah Ingram	Principal Adviser, Delivery	9 (2) (a)	✓

Minister's office to complete

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined
<input type="checkbox"/> Noted	<input type="checkbox"/> Needs change
<input type="checkbox"/> Seen	<input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events
<input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn

Comments:

Purpose

- 1 This briefing:
 - updates you on recent work on the National Erebus Memorial project and signals upcoming work and milestones;
 - seeks your authorisation to continue discussions with Auckland Council and other parties on the assumption that the Parnell Rose Gardens site will very likely be acceptable to you;
 - seeks your agreement to the appointment of [REDACTED] as chair of the design panel; 9 (2) (a) & 9 (2) (ba) (i) & 9 (2) (g) (i)
 - 9(2)(g)(i) [REDACTED]
 - Out of scope of the request [REDACTED]

Key Messages

- 2 Work on the National Erebus Memorial project is progressing well, and we expect to be able to finalise the Memorial's location and design documentation shortly.
- 3 Certain identified matters require your confirmation or agreement in order that we can progress them.
- 4 Out of scope of the request [REDACTED]

Recommendations

- 5 The Ministry for Culture and Heritage recommends that you:
 - 1 **Agree** that we should proceed with work towards securing the Parnell Rose Garden site, on the basis that it will likely be acceptable to you; YES / NO
 - 2 EITHER
 - a **agree** to make an overture to [REDACTED] 9 (2) (a) & 9 (2) (ba) (i) & 9 (2) (g) (i) [REDACTED] YES / NO
 - chairing the design panel;
 - OR

b **agree** that the design panel should be chaired by the Ministry's Chief Executive; **YES / NO**

3 9(2)(g)(i) **YES / NO**

4 Out of scope of the request **YES / NO**

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Tamsin Evans
Delivery Group Manager

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

____ / ____ / 2018

Background

6 The Ministry last provided you with a substantive briefing on the National Erebus Memorial in June 2018 (BR2018/407 refers). As discussed at your meeting with officials on 9 August 2019, considerable progress has been made since that time.

Stakeholder Engagement

Surveying the Families

- 7 We have received the results of the Colmar Brunton survey of families of the victims and ice phase members of Operation Overdue. Key features are:
- Good response rate of 68% for family members and 71% for Operation Overdue
 - Preference for a secluded rather than a busy site, with the preservation of serenity being important and 'sitting and reflecting' being the most supported activity at the memorial
 - An almost universal desire for the Memorial to list the names of those lost
 - A desire for the Memorial to educate visitors about the events and people involved
 - A desire for the Memorial to include reference to the Antarctic
 - The main thing people want avoided at the Memorial is any reference to Air New Zealand.

- 8 The respondents' comments will help us finalise the 'call for ideas' document which will seek design concepts for the Memorial and which will be issued as soon as possible.
- 9 We note that the feedback about the Memorial is largely positive, but the freeform text sections captures significant comment about alleged wrongdoing by Air New Zealand and the government of the day, and this is addressed in paragraph 30 and following below.

Meeting with the Families

- 10 We are working with your office towards an Auckland meeting between you and representatives of the Erebus families on the 39th anniversary of the accident on 28 November 2019.

11 9 (2) (a)

- 12 Communications with 9 (2) (a) continue to be very warm and positive, but our close engagement with them is revealing expectations that are discussed, along with other signals, at paragraph 30 and following below.

Liaising with Auckland

- 13 The families' preference for a secluded (though not too secluded) site suggests that the Parnell Rose Gardens, as favoured by Auckland Council, would be well received. We will undertake provisional and confidential discussions with the Waitemata Local Board and selected family representatives, and at this stage seek your confirmation that you are comfortable with our conversations proceeding on the basis that the Parnell Rose Gardens will very likely be acceptable to you.
- 14 The Mayor has recently returned from holiday and he and his staff are focussing on a range of pressing issues. We hope to be able to make further progress with his office within the next two weeks, once we have had the discussions above, and to provide you with a formal recommendation shortly thereafter. We anticipate that you will want to issue a media release once the decision is made, in association with the Mayor, and will work with your office towards that end.

Other Stakeholder Engagement

- 15 We continue to work closely with Air New Zealand, New Zealand Police, High Commissions and Embassies, and other stakeholders. We have briefed National and Act Party MPs, and have re-established a constructive relationship with the Erebus National Memorial lobby group.

Creating the Design Panel

- 16 We have been working on the 'call for ideas' document that represents the first stage of developing the Memorial design, and which will be sent out to potential designers. Its finalisation requires four things:
- Inclusion of the views of the families (almost completed, now that we have the survey results)
 - Reference to the site of the Memorial, given that this will be a major driver of its design (awaiting decisions as outlined above)
 - An indication of the funding available for the project (see below)
 - Reference to the design panel that will make the recommendations to you with respect to shortlisted and final design preferences.
- 17 A credible panel is an important component of a quality design process. We envisage that it will comprise five people: a Chair, plus four technical experts. We are making good progress in securing the services of such experts, and have confirmation of involvement from appropriate representatives of the Institute of Architects and the Institute of Landscape Architects. We expect also to include urban design and public art expertise on the panel.
- 18 The issue as to who should chair the panel remains. This person does not need to be a technical expert, but does need to have both sympathy with the objectives of the Memorial, and familiarity with the process of Memorial development. We believe the role can be very appropriately undertaken by the Ministry's Chief Executive, but do have another proposal for your consideration.

19 9 (2) (a) & 9 (2) (ba) (i) & 9 (2) (g) (i)

20 9 (2) (a) & 9 (2) (ba) (i) & 9 (2) (g) (i)

21 9(2)(g)(i)

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9(2)(g)(i)

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Ensuring the Memorial Provides Resolution and Comfort

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Not in scope of the request

Not in scope of the request

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED

36 Not in scope of the request

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Appendices

Appendix 1: New Zealand Memorials Overseas and in New Zealand

New Zealand Memorials Overseas and in New Zealand



NZ Memorial in Korea (2006)
Granite tablets and bronze plaques installed in the UN Cemetery, Pusan, Korea.
*Estimated Cost: \$300,000**



Australian Memorial – Pukeahu Park
Fifteen red sandstone columns (2m x 4m approx.) and inscribed granite panels. Extensive paving around the memorial and landscaping.
Estimated Cost: \$5.0 million



US Memorial – Pukeahu Park
Inscribed granite tablet (2m x 4m approx.) and extensive landscaping and modification to the ground levels.
Estimated Cost: \$1.4 million



NZ Memorial in London (2006)
Sixteen bronze standards set on a grid pattern and inscribed with text and images. Situated at Hyde Park Corner, central London.
Estimated Cost: \$3.0 million



UK Memorial – Pukeahu Park
Stylised oak and pohutukawa trees entwined with a bronze canopy inset with acrylic flowers and leaves. No other landscaping.
Estimated Cost: \$1.2 million



Belgian Memorial – Turkish Memorial Pukeahu Park
Corten steel wreath 8 metres across. No landscaping.
Cast bronze sculpture with laser-cut reception stones inset with concrete base.
Estimated Cost: \$220,000



NZ Memorial in Canberra (2000)
Two 12 metre tall bronze representations of the handles of a flax kete positioned each side of Anzac Parade in Canberra. Opened in 2001.
Estimated Cost: \$4.6 million



French Memorial – Pukeahu Park
Composite stone tablets inset with inscriptions. Motion-activated soundscape built into the memorial. Extensive landscaping.
Estimated Cost: \$0.5 million



Canterbury National Earthquake Memorial
Marble wall inscribed with 185 names of those killed in the 2011 earthquake. Stepped paving leading down to the Avon River. Landscaped contemplative space on the opposite bank.
Estimated Cost: \$10 million

* All dollar figures relate to the cost in the year of construction; some figures will require significant updating to represent 2018 costs

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

A5 Memorials can move people emotionally. What, if any, emotion or feeling would you like the National Erebus Memorial to bring out?

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

A6 As well as understanding what you want for the Memorial, we also want to know if there is anything that you feel would be inappropriate to include. Please describe in detail, what, if anything, you do not want for the National Erebus Memorial.

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

- 9 (2) (a)
- 9 (2) (ba) (i)
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- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

B2 Are there any other activities, actions or events which you would like to see, or not like to see happen at the National Erebus Memorial?

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

C3 Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make about the National Erebus Memorial that you haven't had the opportunity to say?

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)

- 9 (2) (a)
9 (2) (ba) (i)
9 (2) (g) (i)
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