

Delivering On Our Election Promises

OUR FIRST 100 DAYS



Hon John Key **Prime Minister**

The new Government has been in office for 100 days. During the election campaign we pledged to put in place a post-election action plan. All of the actions listed in this plan have been delivered as promised within our first 100 days in office (see below).

Our next steps in government (see overleaf) will be to deliver the rest of our election promises, build on our Jobs and Growth Plan to combat the global recession, and help build a brighter future for all New Zealanders.

National's Post-Election Action Plan

FIRST ACTIONS ON THE ECONOMY

DONE

- » Introduce and pass National's tax package into law before Christmas, with tax cuts beginning on 1 April 2009. ✓
- » Update and publish the economic and fiscal forecasts to gauge the true state of the Government's books and determine the on-going effects of the international economic crisis. ✓
- » Appoint a Minister of Infrastructure and begin implementing our infrastructure plan. ✓
- » Introduce an RMA reform bill to reduce the costs, delays, and uncertainties in the Act. ✓
- » Introduce and pass National's transitional relief package into law to offer extra assistance to Kiwis who are worst hit by redundancy. ✓
- » Call in the public service chief executives and instruct them to undertake a line-by-line review of their department's spending. ✓
- » Establish a Cabinet Expenditure Control Committee to oversee the review of departmental spending and ensure savings are focused on the front line. ✓
- » Begin a regulatory review programme to identify and remove inefficient and superfluous regulation. ✓

FIRST ACTIONS ON LAW AND ORDER

DONE

- » Introduce legislation to remove the right of the worst repeat violent offenders to be released on parole. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to clamp down on criminal gangs and their drug trade. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to toughen the bail laws to make it harder for criminals awaiting trial to get bail. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to tackle increasing violent youth crime by bolstering the Youth Court with a range of new interventions and sentences. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to require DNA testing for every person arrested for an imprisonable offence. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to give police the power to issue on-the-spot protection orders to help them protect victims of domestic violence. ✓
- » Introduce legislation to compensate victims by levying criminals and putting the money into a Victims Compensation Scheme. ✓

Continued Overleaf »



FIRST ACTIONS ON EDUCATION

DONE

- » Amend the Education Act 1989 so the Minister of Education can set agreed National Standards in literacy and numeracy. ✓
- » Publish requirements for primary and intermediate schools to report to parents in plain English about how their child is doing compared to the set National Standards, and compared to other children their age. ✓
- » Begin work on allocating an additional \$500 million capital investment in schools in preparation for our first Budget to start future-proofing our schools. ✓
- » Introduce a "voluntary bonding scheme" which offers student loan debt write-offs to graduate teachers who agree to work in hard-to-staff communities or subjects. ✓
- » Amend the Education Act 1989 to increase the current fines for parents of truant children from \$150 and \$400 for first-time and repeat offenders respectively, and allow the Ministry of Education to take prosecutions. ✓

FIRST ACTIONS ON HEALTH

DONE

- » Instruct the Ministry of Health and DHBs to halt the growth in health bureaucracy. ✓
- » Open the books on the true state of hospital waiting lists and the crisis in services. ✓
- » Fast-track funding for 24-hour Plunketline. ✓
- » Instruct that a full 12-month course of Herceptin be publicly available. ✓
- » Begin implementing National's Tackling Waiting Lists plan. ✓
- » Establish a "voluntary bonding scheme" offering student loan debt write-off to graduate doctors, nurses, and midwives who agree to work in hard-to-staff communities or specialties. ✓

FIRST ACTION ON ELECTORAL LAW

- » Repeal the Electoral Finance Act 2007 and reinstate the Electoral Act 1993, with the sections in the Electoral Finance Act relating to donations retained. ✓

Our Next Steps

National's Post-Election Action Plan covered just some of our election promises and the first of our actions in government. Now that our first 100 days are up, we are looking ahead to our next steps in government.

ECONOMY

- » Continue to build on our Jobs and Growth Plan to combat the global recession and action the best ideas from the Prime Minister's Job Summit.
- » Cut personal taxes on 1 April (which will also boost superannuation payments).
- » Implement the tax changes in our small business package.
- » Begin fast-tracked infrastructure projects to upgrade state highways, build new state houses, and improve schools.
- » Put together our first Budget to get more value from government spending and better public services.

LAW AND ORDER

- » Pass the tough new laws on sentencing, gangs, and police powers introduced in our first 100 days.
- » Work on confiscating the assets of gangs and P dealers.
- » Train 300 new frontline police for South Auckland.
- » Improve prison management and parole so that public safety is the first priority.
- » Develop a military-style activity camp programme for the worst youth offenders.
- » Confront some of the underlying causes of crime.

EDUCATION

- » Accelerate the construction of new schools, improve existing school buildings, and upgrade information technology infrastructure.
- » Build new Trades Academies.
- » Consult teachers and parents on National Standards so they can be in place for the 2010 school year.
- » Reduce bureaucracy and compliance so schools can focus on what they do best – teaching our children.

HEALTH

- » Start building the first of several elective surgery super-centres to reduce hospital waiting lists.
- » Cut bureaucracy across the health system.
- » Give doctors and nurses more say so that patients can get better care sooner.
- » Sign up the first graduate health professionals to our Voluntary Bonding Scheme to get more young doctors, nurses, and midwives working in hard-to-staff areas and specialties.

ELECTORAL LAW

- » Consult with the public and other political parties to develop a fair and enduring electoral law.

