



MP for Mt Albert

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence

Russel Norman
Executive Director
Greenpeace New Zealand

29 OCT 2019

Dear Dr Norman

Thank you for your letter of 7 October 2019 about the protection of Hector's and Māui dolphins.

Minister of Conservation Eugenie Sage and Minister of Fisheries Stuart Nash recently consulted on a revised Threat Management Plan to protect the Hector's and Māui dolphins. The proposals include options to significantly expand the areas of our ocean that are free of set nets and trawl nets to protect dolphins from the risk of bycatch and fishing nets. They are based on the best-available science from New Zealand and international expertise. The post-consultation policy process is underway and Cabinet will make decisions in due course.

The Government has an established process for considering policy proposals set out in Cabinet Officer Circular CO (17) 10. You can review that circular online at <https://dpmc.govt.nz/publications/co-17-10-labour-new-zealand-first-coalition-confidence-and-supply-green-party>.

My expectation is that all Ministers involved in policy discussions, including in the case of work around the review of the Maui and Hector's Dolphins Draft Threat Management Plan, conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the guidance in the Cabinet Manual.

The Cabinet Office works with Ministers to ensure potential conflicts of interest are managed pursuant to the Cabinet manual. I am advised that the Cabinet Office has appropriate procedures in place to manage these conflicts.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me.

Yours sincerely

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Ardern', written over the typed name.

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister of New Zealand