



## Government Inquiry into Operation Burnham Progress Report No 9

9 March 2020

### Inquiry to report by 29 May 2020

The Inquiry will submit its final report by 29 May 2020 as a result of the Attorney-General agreeing to a further short extension. See Gazette notice [here](#).

The Inquiry has set out an updated timeline in [Minute No 22](#). It has now distributed the draft report to core participants, their legal advisors and to the Crown Law Office (on behalf of affected Crown agencies). Parties have until Friday 20 March 2020 to make submissions and hearings will take place late March and early April as detailed in the Minute.

As indicated in previous Progress Reports several factors have contributed to the need for additional time to allow the Inquiry to complete its work.

This included matters that arose from resumed [Public Hearing Module 4](#) in mid-October, which necessitated further evidential hearings with witnesses and other investigative work. The Inquiry has also continued to receive relevant material from the New Zealand Defence Force and other Crown agencies.

In addition, the Inquiry has also had to manage its obligations in relation to the protective security of classified information in order to produce a draft report (with redactions) that can be provided to non-Crown core participants.

### Natural justice requirements

To address the natural justice obligations set out in the [Inquiries Act 2013](#) (s 14), the Inquiry has engaged with affected parties for their comment. This is happening in parallel with the draft report process.

### Latest disclosure of classified documents

The Inquiry has continued to publish documents released under its protocol for reviewing classified information. Since the last [Progress Report](#) in December 2019, seventeen documents relating to Operation Burnham and five relating to detention have been published. These can be found [here](#).

To date, the Inquiry has published 298 documents; 116 of these relate to [Operation Burnham](#), 93 concern [detention](#) and 10 [Cabinet documents](#) relate to the deployment of New Zealand forces to Afghanistan.

The Inquiry has recently published the full list of documents in series order [here](#). To assist public understanding of the documents, the Inquiry has also published a glossary of the most common acronyms [here](#).