



Overview

The Panel recommends the Government:

- invites and supports the people of Aotearoa New Zealand to continue the conversation about our constitutional arrangements.
- develops a national strategy for civics and citizenship education in schools and in the community, including the unique role of the Treaty of Waitangi, te Tiriti o Waitangi, and assign responsibility for the implementation of the strategy.
- note the implementation of the strategy could include the co-ordination of education activities; resource development, including resources for Māori medium schools; and professional development for teachers and the media.

The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990

The Panel recommends the Government sets up a process, with public consultation and participation, to explore in more detail the options for amending the Act to improve its effectiveness such as:

- adding economic, social and cultural rights, property rights and environmental rights
- improving compliance by the Executive and Parliament with the standards in the Act
- giving the Judiciary powers to assess legislation for consistency with the Act
- entrenching all or part of the Act

Other issues:

The Panel recommends the Government invite and support the people of Aotearoa New Zealand to explore the following topics in any further consideration of our constitutional arrangements:

- the status and functions of local government and its relationship to central government
- the role of He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni, the Declaration of Independence
- the role and functions of the public service
- the distinct interests of citizens of countries within the Realm of New Zealand
- the role and functions of the Head of State and symbols of state
- an upper house of Parliament.

The Panel recommends the Government invites Parliament to differentiate between types of urgency and to minimise the use of the urgency truncating select committee consideration of bills.