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TORANGAPU*

MORE TROUBLE FROM NZ FIRST

The Government's controversial industrial relations legislation appears to be the latest flashpoint in the ongoing tussle for power between Labour and NZ First. At the heart of the row is a clause in the new legislation which would require employers to be part of a collective industrial agreement if a union demands they be. [CLICK TO CONTINUE READING](#)

O'CONNOR ON CLIMATE CHANGE TRIP TO EUROPE

Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor is on five-nation tour of Europe. He will speak at the international conference on agricultural greenhouse gases and food security in Berlin, co-sponsored by the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, which New Zealand led the establishment of in 2009. As the first New Zealand Minister to visit Italy since the formation of its new government in April, Mr O'Connor will meet with counterparts. Italy is a valuable friend and trading partner. In Rome he will also meet with the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization. In Paris Mr O'Connor will host a reception to support New Zealand's candidate for Director-General of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine, Dr John Barker. In London he will meet with UK officials and industry representatives to discuss the development of the UK's agricultural policy. Mr O'Connor will also meet with key European stakeholders on EU-New Zealand free trade agreement negotiations. He travels from 10-16

September.

RESERVE BANK REVIEW – PHASE TWO

The joint Treasury and Reserve Bank Team undertaking Phase 2 of the Government's Review of the Reserve Bank Act has released the outline of how Phase 2 will proceed. Consultation will run from November 2018 until late January 2019 to initially seek stakeholder views on the following topics set out in the terms of reference released by Minister of Finance Grant Robertson on 7 June 2018:

- Overarching objectives of the Reserve Bank set out in legislation
- Institutional governance and decision making
- The case for and against separation of prudential supervision from the Reserve Bank
- The case for and against depositor protection (including the option of deposit insurance)
- Reconsidering the regulatory perimeter of 'bank' regulation.
- A consultation paper will be released in November seeking views on each of these topics.

Two further consultation periods are planned and will cover the remaining Review topics along with detailed policy options developed following the first consultation. At this stage, the next of these consultations is expected for the first half of 2019 with a final consultation expected later in the year.

SIR GEOFFREY CALLS FOR ACC REFORM

Former Prime Minister the Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Palmer QC used the 2018 Sir Owen Woodhouse Memorial Lecture at Victoria University of Wellington this evening (Monday 10 September) to call for a bold and visionary overhaul of New Zealand's accident compensation system. Unjust discriminatory aspects of the system need to be eradicated, Sir Geoffrey told an audience at the University's Faculty of Law. And the "unfinished business" of what Sir Owen intended when the royal commission he chaired laid the groundwork for the no-fault system needs finally to be completed, he said.

Sir Geoffrey said there should be a single unified system not only for people

incapacitated by accidents but also those incapacitated by sickness or otherwise disabled. A unified system was Sir Owen's intention when the Woodhouse Report was released in 1967, he said. Only about half the report's "bold, almost revolutionary recommendations" went on to be included in the 1972 Act that established the first version of the accident compensation system we have today, said Sir Geoffrey.

Sir Geoffrey said serious inequalities stem from the preferential treatment enjoyed by accident victims in terms of both income support and rehabilitation. Someone "laid low by cancer, a heart attack or stroke" is treated much less generously than someone suffering an accidental injury that results in the same incapacity, he said. "The first group is easily impoverished by the drop in income compared with the person on ACC."

Sir Geoffrey said that 50 years after the Woodhouse Report, "We do not seem to be willing to grasp the nettle and design what a rational and humane system of income support looks like. Fairness demands a policy response and one that is properly worked through. That is what the Woodhouse legacy is saying to us if only we would listen.

MANUFACTURING SALES FALL

The volume of both petroleum and chemical product manufacturing sales dropped in the June 2018 quarter, Stats NZ said yesterday. The total volume of manufacturing sales fell 1.2 per cent in the June 2018 quarter compared with the March 2018 quarter, when adjusted for seasonal effects. This was the largest fall in five years, partly due to one-off events in the petroleum and chemicals sectors. The total volume of manufacturing fell in the June 2018 quarter, after a moderate rise in both the March 2018 and December 2017 quarters, up 1.0 per cent and 1.6 per cent, respectively.

SAVE THE WHALES SAYS WINSTON

As the International Whaling Commission meets in Brazil this week, Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters says it must reinforce its leadership role in the conservation of whales and dolphins. New Zealand supports the IWC this year establishing the South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary and delivering outcomes on global

oceans issues that affect whales and dolphins, such as abandoned fishing gear and ocean noise,” Mr Peters said. “Global attention is focused on conservation leadership, and the IWC must be no exception. Now is not the time to step backwards. Referring to Japan’s proposal to resume commercial whaling of some species, Mr Peters said, “New Zealand continues to support the moratorium on commercial whaling. We want to see the Commission’s efforts on whale conservation strengthened, not weakened.

SHAW ON CLIMATE CHANGE TRIP TO CALIFORNIA

The Minister for Climate Change, James Shaw, is travelling to California today to present New Zealand’s plans for action on climate change and to gather the latest research and work elsewhere in the world to help us address the issue at home. The Global Climate Action Summit, being held in San Francisco, will bring together government leaders, businesses, scientists and NGOs at one of the largest gatherings this year to address Climate Change. “The theme of this Global Climate Action Summit, in San Francisco, is titled ‘Taking Ambition to the Next Level’, and it’s important we continue to build on the momentum established by the Paris Agreement to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change,” says James Shaw.

CHEAP SUBURBS

Core Logic have worked out what are the country’s 50 worst performing suburbs in terms of property values. You can see their report [HERE](#) which shows the lowest 50 NZ performers for changes in property values since the pre-GFC peak.

AN INTERESTING TYPO

The following statement was received late yesterday from Foreign Minister, Winston Peters.

“Further information shared with the Government solidifies New Zealand’s position of welcoming the progress made in identifying the individuals accused of deploying the nerve agent. In short, we believe the conclusion of this investigation that there is a prima facie case for the charges. **Any perception the New Zealand government has been strong and supportive of the international community**

are misguided. New Zealand Government has consistently supported the United Kingdom and international community in condemning the Salisbury attack and Russia's involvement."

The highlighted sentence is exactly what Peters' critics have been accusing him of since his statement last Thursday on the UK poisoning. (A statement, PM Jacinda Ardern told her weekly press conference was merely a placeholder until she was able to respond to media questions if they came.)

But it appears one word was left out of the press statement.

Ten minutes after it arrived, in came a correction: "Any perception the New Zealand government has **not** been strong and supportive of the international community is misguided."

*** It's Maori language week and Torangapu means "politics" (So does POLITIK)**



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