

Appointment of Advisory Committee to Investigate the Effects on the Health of Firefighters of the Fire at the ICI Riverview Store, Mount Wellington, Auckland on 21 December 1984

To all to whom these presents shall come, and to—

SIAN ELIAS, J.S.M. (Stanford), LL.B. (Hons), Q.C., of Auckland;

DON RANJIT BANDARANAYAKE, M.B.B.S. (Ceylon), D.P.H. (Leeds), F.F.C.M. (United Kingdom), Ph.D. (Leeds), M.C.C.M. (New Zealand), of Wellington, Community Medicine Specialist;

IVOR RALPH EDWARDS, M.B., Ch.B. (Birmingham), M.R.C.S. (United Kingdom), M.R.C.P. (United Kingdom), F.R.C.P., (London), F.R.A.C.P., M.A.A.C.T., of Dunedin, Associate Professor;

MAJOR DAVID EILENBERG, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (London), F.R.C.P. (London), F.R.C. Psych (Eng.), F.R.A.N.Z.C.P., of Auckland, Psychiatrist;

WILLIAM IVAN GLASS, M.B., Ch.B. (Otago), D.P.H. (London), R.C.P., R.C.S. (Eng.), F.F.O.M. (Eng.), F.A.C.O.M. (Australia), of Dunedin, Associate Professor:

Pursuant to section 9A of the Health Act 1956, I, Helen Elizabeth Clark, Minister of Health, hereby appoint you the said Sian Elias, Don Ranjit Bandaranayake, Ivor Ralph Edwards, Major David Eilenberg, and William Ivan Glass to be an advisory committee—

(1) To arrange for a suitably qualified medical practitioner (hereafter called "the Investigator"),—

(a) To collect health information from all firefighters involved with the fire that occurred at the ICI Riverview Store, Mount Wellington, Auckland, on the 21st day of December 1984, or with the aftermath of that fire; and

(b) To analyse the health information collected pursuant to paragraph (a) of this clause; and

(c) To submit a report to you on the health information collected under paragraph (a) of this clause (which report shall include the results of the analysis carried out pursuant to paragraph (b) of this clause):

(2) On receipt of the report of the Investigator, to consider the report and to review the current state of health of each of those firefighters:

(3) To determine (if possible) whether or not health problems experienced by any of the firefighters since the fire are attributable in whole or in part to their involvement with the fire or its aftermath:

(4) To recommend what further action (if any) should be undertaken in respect of—

(a) Those firefighters involved with the fire or its aftermath who have developed health problems since the fire but who are satisfied with the medical treatment that they are receiving or have received; and

(b) Those firefighters involved with the fire or its aftermath who have developed health problems since the fire but who are not satisfied with the medical treatment that they are receiving or have received:

(5) To review the present health procedures applicable to firefighters involved in chemical fires—

(a) During such fires:

(b) Immediately following any such fire:

(c) By way of long-term medical surveillance—

and to recommend whether any changes need to be made to these procedures:

(6) To inquire into and make recommendations on such other matters as appear relevant:

And I hereby appoint you, the said Sian Elias, to be the Chairperson of the advisory committee:

And you are hereby strictly charged and directed that you shall not at any time publish or otherwise disclose, save to me in pursuance of these presents or by my direction the contents or purport of any report made or to be made by you in your capacity as members of the advisory committee:

And it is hereby declared that the quorum necessary for the transaction of business at any meeting of the advisory committee shall be 2 members (including the Chairperson or a member deputed by the Chairperson to act in her stead):

And it is hereby declared that you have liberty to report your proceedings and findings from time to time if you shall judge it expedient to do so:

And, using all due diligence, you are required to report to me in writing under your hands not later than the 31st day of July 1989 your findings and opinions on the matters aforesaid, together with such recommendations as you think fit to make in respect thereof.

Dated at Wellington this 21st day of March 1989.

HELEN CLARK, Minister of Health.

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