Please see the below responses to your survey from the New Zealand Labour Party.

1. **How will your party ensure the safety and security of the Jewish community, at a time of rising antisemitism internationally?**

Our Kiwi Jewish community are entitled to feel safe and Labour will take all steps we can to ensure they do. Labour believes in a society where the rights of all are upheld. Where everyone feels safe in their community and can access justice where issues arise. We condemn all acts of antisemitism, racism and violence.

Safe communities rely on a number of factors including:

- encouraging dialogue and engagement across different beliefs and backgrounds by supporting community leaders to engage outside their own community groups (under Labour we established the Ministry of Ethnic Communities and grew the ethnic diversity fund to help do just this);
- ensuring we respond to evidenced base recommendations in regard to racism and violence;
- ensuring we have appropriate police capability and knowledge to respond to issues involving racism, discrimination and hate crime;
- growing dialogue between community members and decision makers;
- we will be guided by these and other objectives as we engage on issues of antisemitism, racism and violence.

2. What is your party's position on funding for security infrastructure (e.g. fencing, cameras, guards) at synagogues, Jewish schools, and community centres?

Every New Zealander should be able to worship, study and gather in their community without fear. We recognise that Jewish community organisations, like a number of other faith communities, carry significant costs to keep synagogues, schools and community centres safe, and that this is a real burden. Decisions about protective security should be informed by Police and security agency assessments of the threat environment. Labour would work closely with the Jewish community and other faith communities to understand their security needs and how government can best support them.

3. How will your party ensure Police and other agencies accurately record, investigate, and respond to antisemitic hate crimes and hate incidents?

Labour wants every hate crime to be properly recognised, recorded and responded to. After the Christchurch terror attacks, the last Labour Government funded Te Raranga, a Police programme to

improve how officers recognise, record and respond to hate-motivated crime, and to make it easier for victims to report it.

The Law Commission's recent report *Hara ngākau kino* found real problems with how the law works in practice. When a court finds an offence was motivated by hostility, that finding isn't recorded in a systematic way. There's no clear process to make sure courts know an offence may have been hate-motivated. And judges aren't required to say clearly when an offence was a hate crime. The Commission's recommendations include:

- a hate crime flag in the court records system, so Police can identify possible hate motivation at the charging stage;
- a requirement for judges to state when hostility was a motivating factor;
- clarifying that the law applies when someone is targeted because of their association with a community, not only their membership of it;
- training for Police, prosecutors and judges;
- annual publication of hate crime data.

Labour has committed to responding to the Law Commission's report. Its recommendations on recording and transparency go directly to the concern you have raised: making sure antisemitic and other hate crimes are accurately recorded and taken seriously all the way through the justice system. We see real merit in them. Labour also supports a modern, well-resourced Police service that works alongside local communities and is skilled in responding to diverse communities, so victims have the confidence to come forward.

4. What role, if any, should the government play in monitoring and countering antisemitic content online and on social media platforms operating in New Zealand?

Labour stands against antisemitism, wherever it happens. After the Christchurch attacks, the last Labour Government strengthened classification law so harmful content can be stopped quickly online. Urgent interim classifications and take-down notices can now be issued to online content hosts, and livestreaming objectionable content is an offence. Sharing or possessing objectionable material, including terrorist and violent extremist content, is illegal. Other laws also apply. Inciting hostility against a group because of its ethnic origins is an offence, and New Zealand courts have recognised Jewish people as protected under that law. Hate motivation is an aggravating factor at sentencing. The Harmful Digital Communications Act also makes posting a communication intended to cause harm an offence.

Laws only work if they are enforced. Labour will make sure the Police, the Department of Internal Affairs, the Classification Office and Netsafe have the capability to act. We will also keep working with international partners and platforms through the Christchurch Call.

5. Will your party support mandatory or expanded Holocaust education in the New Zealand school curriculum?

The Labour Party will establish the Independent Council for Curriculum and Assessment (ICCA), which will be tasked with leading decisions related to the New Zealand curriculum.

6. Would your party maintain the proscription of Hezbollah and Hamas? Would it seek the designation of IRGC and PFLP as terror organisations?

Labour supports maintaining the designation of Hamas and Hezbollah in their entirety as terrorist entities. Following the 7 October 2023 attacks, Rt Hon Chris Hipkins as Prime Minister commissioned the official advice that led to Hamas being designated in its entirety. Decisions on designating other entities, including the IRGC and the PFLP, are made by the Prime Minister under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002, against statutory criteria and on the basis of advice from New Zealand's security agencies. A Labour Government would consider any such designation through that process.

7. Does your party support reform of New Zealand's hate speech and hate crime legislation? If so, what changes would you make?

In December 2020, the Labour Government agreed in principle to all 44 recommendations of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the March 15 terrorist attack. Many were implemented during our time in government, but others were still in progress when we left office in 2023, including some we had deferred or not yet made final decisions on, such as hate speech reform and a new national intelligence and security agency. In 2024, the current Government ended the coordinated response and decided not to progress eight of the recommendations.

8. How would your party balance protections against incitement to hatred with freedom of expression?

Labour values both the right to freedom of expression and the right of every person to live free from discrimination, and to practice their faith safely. These rights sit alongside each other in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Freedom of expression is fundamental to our democracy.

9. Would your party support the introduction of hate crime as an aggravating factor in sentencing?

Labour has accepted the Law Commission's recommendations from its review of hate crime law. These would strengthen how the existing aggravating factor works in practice, so that hate-motivated offending is consistently identified, recorded and taken seriously by the courts.

10. Does your party support a negotiated Two-State Solution, i.e. a Jewish state existing alongside a Palestinian state?

New Zealand has long supported a negotiated two-state solution, as have the United Nations and much of the international community and we agree with the statement made by the UN Secretary General that such a solution is a credible path towards lasting peace and security for Palestinians, Israelis and the wider region. Ultimately our position is grounded in something more fundamental: a commitment to human rights and international law. We want all the peoples of Israel and Palestine to be able to live in peace, with security, dignity and equality under the law, and specific constitutional outcomes are a matter for Israelis and Palestinians themselves to determine through negotiation. What we can do is insist that any resolution respect the rights of all people and the obligations set out in international law.

11. What is your party's position on sanctions against Israel (whether broad economic/diplomatic sanctions or targeted measures such as restrictions on settlement-linked goods or arms), and would your party support New Zealand imposing or supporting any such sanctions? If so, at what point could such sanctions be lifted?

Labour has committed to economic sanctions against the Israeli Government because of its illegal occupation of the Palestinian Territory, as set out in the ICJ's advisory opinion of 19 July 2024. We will legislate a framework for this taking the approach we took with the Russia Sanctions Act 2022. These include but are not limited to sanctions in relation to goods from illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and asset freezes and travel bans on named individuals. Labour would also require the NZ Super Fund and ACC to divest from companies on the UN list of businesses complicit with the illegal settlements in the West Bank. Labour's focus is on New Zealand acting alongside like-minded partners and in line with our obligations under international law. Our commitments to recognise Palestine and join international sanctions are firm Labour policy. On arms, Labour supports meeting our Arms Trade Treaty obligations in full. The last Labour Government ruled out commercial sales of firearm suppressors to users in Israel. Any decision to lift sanctions would be made in coordination with the like-minded partners we impose them alongside, and on the basis of official advice.

12. How would your party respond to calls from local councils or public institutions to adopt symbolic pro- or anti-Israel resolutions that community members have raised concerns about?

Local councils and public institutions are independent and make their own decisions, and it would not be appropriate for central government to direct them. It is the Labour Party's view that sanctions and divestment are an appropriate response to the Israeli Government's illegal occupation for many institutions and organisations, not just for central government.

13. How will your party promote social cohesion and combat extremism and hatred of all kinds, to keep New Zealand a tolerant and safe place for all communities?

Labour believes every community in New Zealand has the right to live free from hatred, harassment and violence. After the 15 March 2019 terror attacks in Christchurch, the last Labour Government established the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attacks and agreed to all its recommendations. It also

established the Ministry for Ethnic Communities and He Whenua Taurikura, the national centre of research excellence for preventing and countering violent extremism. Through the Christchurch Call, it led international efforts to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online. A Labour Government would build on that work, so that our agencies take hatred of all kinds seriously, including antisemitism, and so that every community can practise its faith and culture safely.

14. How will your party support interfaith and intercultural initiatives that build understanding between the Jewish community and other communities in New Zealand?

Labour values the role that interfaith and intercultural initiatives play in building understanding between communities, and we recognise the contribution the Jewish community has made to that work in New Zealand. We would support these initiatives, including through the Ministry for Ethnic Communities, and we would work with community organisations, including the New Zealand Jewish Council, to strengthen relationships between the Jewish community and other communities.

15. Has your party engaged with Jewish community organisations (e.g. the New Zealand Jewish Council, Holocaust Centre of New Zealand, synagogues) in developing policy? If elected, will your party commit to regular consultation with the community?

Representatives from the Labour Party have engaged with Jewish community organisations throughout this parliamentary term. For example, both the leader of the Labour Party, Rt Hon Chris Hipkins, and List MP Camilla Belich have met with the New Zealand Jewish Council. MPs have visited local synagogues in Auckland and Wellington, attended Holocaust Centre of NZ events in Wellington and Auckland and have visited Kadimah School in Auckland, and met with David Zwartz at Parliament. Labour's party development process is led by members of the party up and down the country.

16. Is there anything else your party would like the Jewish community of New Zealand to know ahead of the election?

Labour wants Jewish New Zealanders to know that they are an important part of the New Zealand community and their safety, culture, religious freedom and wellbeing matter to us. Labour condemned the Hamas terrorist attacks of 7 October 2023, and after those attacks Rt Hon Chris Hipkins as Prime Minister commissioned the official advice that led to Hamas being designated in its entirety as a terrorist entity. We will continue to speak plainly about the situation in Gaza, because we believe the same rules of international law must apply to every state. But criticism of any government must never become hostility towards its people or culture. Jewish New Zealanders should never be held responsible for the actions of the Israeli Government, and antisemitism has no place in New Zealand. We would welcome continuing and ongoing engagement with the Jewish community, whatever the outcome of the election.