# Current political issues

Hugo Group panels Pattrick Smellie June 16 2015

## Political party support – last 5 polls

	National	Labour	Greens	NZ First
Average	49.8	29.3	10.5	6.8

#### Leaders' positions

Post-budget	John Key	Andrew Little	Winston Peters
Colmar-	44	9	9
<b>Brunton</b> *			
Reid	39.4	11.6	11.2
<b>Research*</b>			
UMR**	56/41	48/24	57/36

New Labour party ginger group - Progress

- Stuart Nash, Josie Pagani and others
- New 'right' faction
- Risks creating a new round of toxicity
- But is indicative of how fragile Labour's circumstances remain
- Gould review in some respects unremarkable
  - But accurately portrays a range of unresolved serious weaknesses

Health and safety law reform

- Big vs small business/farmer issue?
- Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum becoming active
  - Alarmed by delay and dilution
- Activity of WorkSafe, already operating, may be colouring farmer/SME views of the legislation
- PM insists Cabinet, as well as backbench, is concerned about "workability"

### Climate change

- Paris now looming
- G-7 committed to 40 70% GHG cuts by 2030 on 1990 levels
  - Expect fossil fuels to be abandoned by 2100
- 10,000 submissions in short, sham NZ consultation
- Govt documents stressed per household costs
  - \$1300 \$1800 in 2027
  - 5% vs 40% on 1990 levels
  - \$50 carbon price assumed

## Climate change – big GHG cuts manageable?

- Infometrics analysis for MfE downplayed
- Suggests:
  - $\bullet~0.9\%$  to 1.1% of GDP impact over a decade
  - $\bullet~5\%~vs~40\%$  cut in GHG emissions vs 1990
  - Assumes \$50 carbon charge
  - Average annual GDP growth of 2.1%
  - Did not model impacts of climate change or potential benefits of behaviour change

TPP – crunch time / Pharmac threat?

- House vote today US time
- Will again be very close could fail
- June 26 a drop-dead date?

- Leaks alleging threats to Pharmac:
  - Leaked annex shows a techincal and "surgical" strike on Pharmac
  - But of arguably limited impact vs what might have been