



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Kris Faafoi	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Update on Ministerial Group considering class exceptions	Date to be published	8 June 2021

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
November 2020	Update on Ministerial Group considering class exceptions	Office of the Minister of Immigration
9 November 2020	CAB-20-MIN-0466	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been redacted for the reason of Constitutional conventions.



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Ministerial Group Considering Class Exceptions: Update

Portfolio **Immigration**

On 9 November 2020, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that on 21 September 2020, Cabinet agreed to establish a group of Ministers, led by the Minister of Immigration and comprising the Minister for Economic Development, Minister of Housing, Minister of Health, and Minister of Internal Affairs, to consider proposals for class exceptions to border restrictions, for agreement by the group of Ministers with Power to Act over the general election and government formation period [CAB-20-MIN-0453];
- 2 **agreed** that, in order to reflect new portfolio responsibilities post-election, the membership of the Ministerial Group, led by the Minister of Immigration, comprise the Minister for COVID-19 Response, the Associate Minister of Finance (Hon Dr Megan Woods), the Minister for Economic and Regional Development, the Minister for Social Development and Employment and the Minister for Māori Development;
- 3 **agreed** that decisions made by the Ministerial Group be referred to Cabinet for approval (rather than the group of Ministers with Power to Act referred to in paragraph 1 above);
- 4 **noted** that relevant portfolio Ministers will continue to be consulted on proposals for class exceptions, to inform the Ministerial Group's recommendations to Cabinet;
- 5 **noted** that the Ministerial Group intends to consider proposals for class exceptions for Recognised Seasonal Employer workers and shearers, which:
 - 5.1 are time-critical; and
 - 5.2 if agreed, will need to be considered by Cabinet on 16 November 2020 if the workers are to potentially arrive in New Zealand in time to meet peak labour demand.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet