



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Kris Faafoi	Portfolio	Minister of Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Report back on the policy proposals to implement the “Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification” initiative and to drawdown the tagged contingency	Date to be published	21 February 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
02 December 2021	Report back on the policy proposals to implement the “Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification” initiative and to drawdown the tagged contingency.	Office of the Minister of Immigration
8 December 2021	Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification: Policy Proposals DEV-21-MIN-0262	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

NO

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Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification: Policy Proposals

Portfolio **Immigration**

On 8 December 2021, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that as part of Budget 2020, Cabinet:
- 1.1 agreed to the ‘Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification’ initiative, which will:
- 1.1.1 support increasing the cap on the Refugee Family Support Category from 300 people per annum to 600 people per annum;
- 1.1.2 increase the settlement support provided to sponsored family members;
- 1.1.3 conduct an evaluation of settlement outcomes for the sponsored family members of former refugees;
- 1.2 agreed to establish a tagged operating contingency of up to the amounts as follows to provide for the ‘Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification’ initiative:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 & Outyears
Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification – Tagged Operating Contingency	-	-	7.157	7.468	7.557

- 1.3 noted that the draw down from the ‘Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification’ contingency is subject to the Minister of Immigration reporting back to Cabinet on the package of specific policy proposals required to implement the initiative;

[CAB-20-MIN-0155.21]

- 2 **agreed** that, as the further work described in paragraph 1.3 above has been satisfactorily completed, the ‘Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification’ contingency can now be drawn down;

3 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to provide for the decision in paragraph 2 above with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 & outyears
Vote Labour Market Minister of Immigration Departmental Output Expense: Immigration Services MCA: Settlement and Integration of Refugees and Other Migrants (funded by revenue Crown)	0.780	4.410	4.090	3.970	3.970
Vote Education Minister of Education Outcomes for Target Student Groups MCA Departmental Output Expense: Interventions for Target Student Groups Non-Departmental Output Expense: Learning Support and Alternative Education (funded by revenue Crown)	0.186 0.000	0.461 0.482	0.545 0.624	0.549 0.766	0.549 0.766
Vote Tertiary Education Minister of Education Tertiary Tuition and Training MCA Non-Departmental Output Expense: Community Education (funded by revenue Crown)	0.000	0.757	1.137	2.272	2.272
Total Operating	0.966	6.110	6.396	7.557	7.557

4 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2021/22 above be included in the 2021/22 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;

5 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraph 3 above be charged against the Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification – Tagged Operating Contingency described in paragraph 1 above;

6 **noted** that, following the adjustments detailed in paragraph 5 above, the remaining balances and indicative phasing of the operating contingency described in paragraph 1.2 above will be as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 & Outyears
Improving the System for Refugee Family Reunification – Tagged Operating Contingency	6.191	1.358	1.161	-	-

7 **noted** that the tagged operating contingency described in paragraph 6 above will not be drawn down and will expire on 1 February 2022.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon David Parker
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Hon Phil Twyford
Rino Tirikatene, MP
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV