



AIDE MEMOIRE

Proposed approach for the public consultation on freedom camping

Date:	18 March 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2021-2855

Information for Minister

Hon Stuart Nash
Minister of Tourism

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone		1st contact
Danielle McKenzie	Manager, Tourism Policy	04 896 5113	Privacy of natural persons	✓
Fraser Pearce	Senior Policy Advisor, Tourism Policy	04 897 5174	Privacy of natural persons	
Stephanie Chee	Policy Advisor, Tourism Policy	04 897 6695	-	

The following departments/agencies have been consulted

N/A

Minister's office to complete:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |

Comments



AIDE MEMOIRE

Draft consultation approach for your proposals to improve freedom camping in New Zealand

Date:	18 March 2021	Priority:	Medium
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Purpose

To inform you of the proposed approach for the public consultation on freedom camping.

Danielle McKenzie
Manager, Tourism Policy
Labour, Science and Enterprise, MBIE
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Background

1. The Cabinet paper and draft discussion document setting out your proposals to improve freedom camping were lodged at Cabinet Office on Thursday 18 March 2021 for discussion at Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV) on Wednesday 24 March 2021.
2. Officials are now preparing supporting materials and arranging meetings in preparation of the four week consultation period proposed to begin Monday 29 March 2021 (closing Monday 26 April - public holiday for observance of ANZAC Day).
3. To support effective public engagement with the proposals, our engagement activities will include:
 - a. publication of the discussion document, Cabinet paper and minute, and Regulatory Impact Statement
 - b. hui and public meetings (or online meetings, if required)
 - c. targeted engagement with particular interest groups such as local authorities and vehicle rental companies
 - d. online survey submissions
 - e. mail and email submissions.
4. This comprehensive engagement will allow us to raise awareness of the discussion paper and encourage the public and key stakeholders to provide meaningful feedback on the proposals. This will allow us to better understand how regulatory changes could impact businesses, councils and the public.

Hui and public meetings

Physical meetings

5. We intend to visit, in person, the freedom camping hot spots or problem areas around the country as identified by Camper Mate visitor data. These are:
 - a. **North Island:** Whangārei, Auckland, Tauranga, Coromandel (Whitianga), Rotorua, Gisborne.
 - b. **South Island:** Nelson, Kaikōura, Christchurch, Mackenzie (Tekapo), Queenstown (including Central Otago), West Coast (Hokitika).
6. At each location we will hold public meetings, and targeted engagement meetings with:
 - a. the local council (and regional council, where appropriate), the Department of Conservation and Regional Tourism Organisation. Through these engagement channels we will ensure key iwi/hapū and Māori organisations in the region are aware of the consultation and are able to participate
 - b. special interest groups, such as vehicle rental companies.
7. Physical copies of the discussion document will be made available to attendees at public meetings.

Online meetings

8. We are aware that a COVID-19 Alert Level change may impact the proposed public meetings and schedule.
9. In the case of a COVID-19 resurgence, online meetings will take place in lieu of physical meetings at the identified locations. We consider regionally-based online meetings, and targeted engagement with key stakeholders will allow us to understand the key issues, impacts and opportunities for each proposal.
10. In addition to the online meetings for contingency purposes, we will likely organise additional online meetings to get better engagement with specific communities, key stakeholders and special interest groups.

Further considerations

11. Freedom camping is a topic that consistently generates media and public interest. Therefore, we anticipate there will be strong public interest in the proposals to improve freedom camping in New Zealand.
12. You may wish to attend one or more of the public meetings to hear directly from the public. If you would like to attend one or more of the public meetings, please let us know your preferred location(s) and we will work with your office to schedule.
13. We propose to undertake submissions analysis from Tuesday 27 April 2021 to Friday 21 May 2021 [briefing 2021-2594 refers], after the public consultation period closes.