



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Kris Faafoi	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Fees for the new Accredited Employer Work Visa	Date to be published	9 May 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
9 February 2022	Fees for the new Accredited Employer Work Visa	Office of the Minister of Immigration
February 2022	DEV-22-MIN-0009	Cabinet Office
9 February 2022	Stage 2 Cost Recovery Impact Statement	MBIE

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 withheld for the reasons of Confidential advice to Government, Maintenance of the law, and Commercial Information.



Cabinet Economic Development Committee

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.

Fees for the New Accredited Employer Work Visa

Portfolio Immigration

On 16 February 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV):

New Accredited Employer Work Visa

1 **noted** that on 28 August 2019, DEV approved the high level design of the new Accredited Employer Work Visa (the AEWV) [DEV-19-MIN-0228];

New fees associated with the Accredited Employer Work Visa

2 **noted** that:

- 2.1 the proposed fees aim to support and implement the three gateway framework for the AEWV;
- 2.2 the proposed fees accord with guidance from the Treasury and Office of the Auditor-General;
- 2.3 the process to calculate the costs and fees was robust, using the best available data;
- 2.4 the approach to cost recovery and fee setting accords with the practice for setting other fees within the Immigration portfolio;
- 2.5 the proposed fees will recover the full costs of the AEWV from employers and migrant workers;

3 **agreed** to the new fee structure and levels, as set out below:

		Proposed fee (NZ\$)
Employers to be accredited through one of four pathways:	Standard (≤ 5 migrants at any one time)	740
	Upgrade fee	480
	High-volume (≥ 6 migrants at any one time)	1,220
	Triangular employment (includes labour hire companies)	3,870
	Franchisees	1,980
Reconsideration of declined employer accreditation application		240
Job check fee		610
Reconsideration of declined job check		240
Issuing of AEWV to worker		540

4 **noted** that on 10 November 2021, DEV agreed to a first principles review of the immigration funding model, beginning with an interim review of fees and levies in 2022, with new rates anticipated to take effect from July 2022 [DEV-21-MIN-0221];

5 Confidential advice to Government

Fee waivers for employers who currently hold accreditation

6 **agreed** to an exemption to the proposed employer accreditation fee for employers who hold accreditation under the Work to Residence – Talent (Accredited Employers) scheme with more than six months duration remaining at 9 May 2022;

7 **noted** that approximately 1,070 employers hold accreditation under the Work to Residence – Talent (Accredited Employers) scheme with more than six months duration remaining at 9 May 2022;

8 **noted** that paragraph 6 above is expected to result in a loss of revenue of approximately \$850,000 (based on the fees proposed above and assuming that not all employers take up the new accreditation);

9 **noted** that this revenue is accounted for by sharing the cost as an overhead across all other related fees, over a period of seven years;

Exemption of new AEWV from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy

10 **noted** that on 12 September 2018, DEV agreed that:

10.1 the purpose of International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy is to fund investment in conservation and tourism;

10.2 the Levy will be paid by all people applying for:

10.2.1 an electronic travel authority (visa waiver travellers);

10.2.2 visitor visas or short term entry visas (12 months or less);

[DEV-18-MIN-0194]

11 **noted** that as AEWVs are longer term work visas, the decisions referred to in paragraph 10 above mean the AEWVs will be exempt from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy;

Legislative implications

12 **noted** that the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 need to be amended to give effect to the above paragraphs;

13 **invited** the Minister of Immigration to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above paragraphs;

- 14 **authorised** the Minister of Immigration to make further minor or technical changes on any issues that arise during the drafting process.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Hon David Parker
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
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