



# BRIEFING

## Proactive release of the Briefing for the Incoming Minister for COVID-19 Response on Managed Isolation and Quarantine

<b>Date:</b>	27 November 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	Low
<b>Security classification:</b>		<b>Tracking number:</b>	2021-1408

Action sought		
Minister	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Hipkins <b>Minister for COVID-19 Response</b>	<b>Agree</b> that the Briefing for the Incoming Minister for COVID-19 Response on Managed Isolation and Quarantine be publicly released with the proposed redactions.	3 December 2020

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact	
Privacy of natural persons	Policy Director, Managed Isolation and Quarantine Unit, MBIE	Privacy of natural persons		✓
Privacy of natural persons	Policy Advisor		Privacy of natural persons	

The following departments/agencies have been consulted					
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/> MoJ	<input type="checkbox"/> NZTE	<input type="checkbox"/> MSD	<input type="checkbox"/> TEC	<input type="checkbox"/> MoE
<input type="checkbox"/> MFAT	<input type="checkbox"/> MPI	<input type="checkbox"/> MfE	<input type="checkbox"/> DIA	<input type="checkbox"/> TPK	<input type="checkbox"/> MoH
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			

**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 Withdrawn           |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:**



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### Purpose

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The purpose of this briefing is to seek your agreement to publicly release the attached redacted version of the Briefing for the Incoming Minister for COVID-19 Response on Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ).

### Recommended action

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The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) recommends that you:

- a **Agree** that the Briefing for the Incoming Minister for COVID-19 Response on MIQ be publicly released with the proposed redactions.

*Agree / Disagree*

Privacy of natural persons

Policy Director,  
Managed Isolation and Quarantine Unit  
27 / 11 / 2020

**Hon Chris Hipkins**  
Minister for COVID-19 Response  
..... / ..... / .....

## Releasing the MIQ BIM

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1. On 3 November 2020, to support you in your role as Minister for COVID-19 Response, we provided you with an introductory briefing (BIM) on MIQ.
2. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has announced that they will be proactively releasing all BIMs on the Beehive website in the week commencing 14 December 2020. To meet this deadline, PMO has requested the marked up and redacted BIMs from Minister's offices before 3 December 2020.
3. We have assessed that the information in the MIQ BIM is largely suitable for public release. We propose releasing the BIM with minor redactions to protect the privacy of officials, avoid prejudicing decisions you may still be actively considering or prejudicing the willingness of officials to provide free and frank advice. Please note that as the BIM was written on 3 November 2020, some of the information is now out of date.
4. As the BIMs are being proactively released, it is not necessary to rely on provisions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) to withhold information. However, we have used the OIA and Ombudsman guidance in assessing whether the material should be withheld. The proposed redactions are consistent with the OIA, and relevant grounds have been identified in Appendix III.
5. If a person would like access to any redacted information, they would need to request it under the OIA. Should this occur, you or the Ministry will need to reconsider the release of the information with reference to the circumstances at the time the new request is made. This is particularly relevant to material that is being withheld to avoid prejudicing upcoming decisions. If decisions have been made, the public interest in releasing information would be stronger.
6. Following your approval, PMO will proactively release the redacted MIQ BIM on the Beehive website in the week commencing 14 December 2020, along with all other BIMs.

## Consultation

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7. MIQ consulted the Ministry of Health when preparing the document for proactive release. MBIE Communications and Legal have also been consulted to ensure the proper due diligence was undertaken on the document prior to proactive release.

## Appendices

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Appendix I: MIQ BIM for proactive release

Appendix II: Copy of the MIQ BIM with proposed redactions highlighted

Appendix III: Information proposed to be withheld

Please note the Briefing for the Incoming Minister for COVID-19 Response on Managed Isolation and Quarantine was released here:  
<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-12/MIQ.pdf>