



## BRIEFING

### Potential packages of class exceptions & MIQ allocations in early 2021

<b>Date:</b>	11 December 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security classification:</b>		<b>Tracking number:</b>	2021-1794

Action sought		
	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Hipkins <b>Minister for COVID-19 Response</b>	<b>Agree</b> in principle to a package of class exceptions to take to the Cabinet Business Committee next week subject to officials confirming timing with groups.	14 December 2020
Hon Kris Faafoi <b>Minister of Immigration</b>	<b>Agree</b> in principle to a package of class exceptions to take to the Cabinet Business Committee next week subject to officials confirming timing with groups.	14 December 2020

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Ruth Isaac	General Manager, Employment, Skills & Immigration Policy	Privacy of natural persons	✓
Privacy of natural persons	Policy Manager, Allocation & Supply, MIQ Policy		✓
	Senior Policy Advisor, MIQ Policy		
	Policy Advisor, Immigration Policy		

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
MBIE MIQ Operations, MBIE Immigration Policy, Ministry of Health

- 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 Withdrawn           |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

To seek your agreement to a package of proposed class exceptions for early 2021, including how these group arrivals could be sequenced through managed isolation, to minimise MIQ resourcing impacts and displacement effects for returning New Zealanders and other critical workers.

#### Recommended action

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

- a **Note** that this briefing provides advice on arrival dates for a number of proposals that the Ministerial Group considering border exceptions agreed in principle on 9 December, as follows:
- Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme – subject to start date
  - 1,000 international students
  - Superyachts (owners of America's Cup syndicates)
  - Summer of cricket – subject to timing
  - Constellation Cup – subject to timing

*Noted*

- b **Note** that this briefing provides further information sought by the Ministerial Group on a number of other proposals considered on 9 December, including:
- Cargo crew servicing the Pacific
  - Replacement international fishing crew
  - Visitors for commemoration events
  - Toyota racing series

*Noted*

- c **Note** that the Ministerial Group deferred decisions on a number of other proposals as follows: superyachts (owners of yachts being refitted/refurbished and other visiting cruising yachts), the commemorative event for the Whakaari White Island eruption, and the Tourism New Zealand International Media Programme, including the Late Show with Stephen Colbert

*Noted*

- d **Note** that this briefing responds to your requests for further information and presents a package of possible options for new class exceptions if Ministers decide to approve any exceptions for groups requiring bespoke MIQ arrangements

*Noted*

## Managed Isolation and Quarantine Capacity Constraints

- e **Note** New Zealanders and critical workers continue to face lengthy delays for MIQ spaces, with wait times expected to stretch to three months by the end of December  
*Noted*
- f **Note** waiting times of this magnitude have a negative impact on the legal right of New Zealanders to be able to return home under the Bill of Rights Act, and are inhibiting the entry of essential foreign workers and family members  
*Noted*
- g **Note** that between January and March MIQ resources will be diverted to supporting arriving groups of Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) workers, deep sea fishing crew and refugees. As RSE workers and refugees will be accommodated in Auckland, only Christchurch will be able to host any additional high-needs groups during this period  
*Noted*
- h **Note** officials continue to recommend that Ministers prioritise releasing capacity into the MIAS system over approving new class exceptions, to help ensure timely entry for critical workers and to reduce delays for New Zealanders waiting to return home  
*Noted*

## Replacement international fishing crew

- i **Note** that decisions on international fishing crew are time-critical and require decisions as soon as possible due to legal and international relations considerations  
*Noted*
- j **Note** that officials recommend approving the addition of this proposal to the government – approved programmes list, noting that the crew do not require MIQ spaces  
*Noted*
- k **Note** that we understand that the Minister of Foreign Affairs is being provided advice on this matter over the weekend, and that officials recommend approving the proposal, subject to the Minister’s approval  
*Noted*
- l **Agree** to add replacement international fishing crew for foreign-flagged fishing vessels operating in international waters (as identified by MFAT) to the government-approved programmes list for up to 50 persons every six months

**Agree/Disagree**

## Groups who will book places in MIAS

- m **Agree** to confirm decisions taken in principle by the Ministerial Group, based on the further advice provided in this paper, and on the basis that these groups will book individual places in MIAS as and when places become available

<b>Kāinga Ora build and urban development</b>	Agree to add to the government-approved programmes list for up to 20 workers over 2021	<b>Agree/Disagree/Discuss</b>
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<b>programme</b>	(Officials have not yet confirmed whether a March start date is workable)	
<b>Priority returning degree and post-graduate international students (1,000)</b>	Agree to approve a class exception for up to 1,000 returning Bachelor's degree and Masters students (plus family members where eligible) for entry from 1 April 2021  Agree to a higher living costs requirement of \$20,000/year for this cohort of students, in addition to MIQ charges and tuition fees	Agree/Disagree/Discuss
<b>Cargo crew servicing the Pacific</b>	Agree to an amendment to immigration instructions to allow replacement cargo crew servicing the Pacific to complete 14 days in MIQ in New Zealand, for up to 200 workers over 12 months from February 2021	Agree/Disagree/Discuss

### Groups requiring bespoke arrangements

n **Note** that officials have worked with lead agencies to determine if any of the sports teams have flexibility in terms of their arrival dates, as follows:

- a. **Netball:** Can postpone their arrival to early February, but no later.
- b. **Cricket:** The cricket teams have a small degree of flexibility but require February entry
- c. **Motor racing:** the dates of the motor racing series cannot be moved, and the group cannot be accommodated in MIQ within the timeframes requested

*Noted*

o **Note** that only one "type" of sports team can be accommodated in MIQ in the early 2021 period, as netball and cricket have different requirements in terms of training arrangements, and it would be too operationally resource-intensive to accommodate both, regardless of arrival date flexibility

*Noted*

p **Note** that, if Ministers wish to approve further class exceptions, Ministers have two options for considering groups requiring bespoke arrangements over the January – March 2021 period:

- a. Option 1 – Recommended – Some rooms released back into MIAS; priority groups accommodated, and staggered entry of sports groups through until late March.
- b. Option 2 – Not recommended – All 500 rooms are used for groups already approved (i.e. RSE workers) and by new class exception groups approved in principle by Ministers. No rooms are released back into MIAS for other travellers to book.

I agree to a variant of option 1 whereby the extra rooms will be released for additional emergency allocations. CH

*Noted*

### Option One

q **Agree**, subject to final agreement from sports teams as to entry dates and compromises on some training requirements, the following:

<b>Summer of cricket –</b>	Agree to <b>either:</b>	Agree/Disagree/Discuss
<b>Constellation Cup</b>	<b>Four cricket teams, including:</b>	Agree/Disagree/Discuss

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Women's team – 28 members</li> <li>Australian Women's team – 29 members</li> <li>Australian men's team – 32 members</li> <li>Bangladeshi men's team - 40 members</li> </ul> <p>(travel dates to be finalised with Cricket NZ)</p> <p>OR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Constellation Cup (netball) for entry in early February, for up to 30 team members and support staff</li> </ul>	
<b>Motor racing series</b>	Agree to decline, as cannot be accommodated within timeframes requested	Agree/Disagree/Discuss
<b>Commemorative events – Christchurch earthquakes and mosque attacks (up to 50 people)</b>	If you are satisfied that numbers can be capped, as per Annex Two, agree to a class exception for travellers for the Christchurch commemorative events, for entry in early February (earthquakes) and late February (mosque attacks)	Agree/Disagree/Discuss

r **Note** that MFAT advises, as in Annex Two, that numbers can be capped for the commemorative events

*Noted*

s **Agree** to forward this briefing to the other Ministers on the Ministerial Group considering border exceptions to confirm these decisions

Agree/Disagree

t **Note** that additions to the lists for class exceptions do not require confirmation by Cabinet and by approved by the Ministerial Group

*Noted*

- u **Direct** officials to prepare a paper for Cabinet Business Committee which seeks confirmation of these decisions on exceptions, based on the further advice provided in this paper

Yes  No



**Policy Manager, Allocations & Supply**  
MIQ Policy, MBIE

Ruth Isaac  
**General Manager, Employment, Skills & Immigration Policy**  
Labour, Science and Enterprise, MBIE

11 / 12 / 20

11 / 12 / 20

Hon Kris Faafoi  
**Minister of Immigration**

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

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12 / 12 / 2020

## Background

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1. The Border Class Exceptions Ministerial Group met on 9 December to discuss a number of new class exceptions to border restrictions. Ministers agreed in principle to some of the proposals (the Kāinga Ora programme, international students, Americas Cup Superyacht owners, the “Summer of Cricket” proposal and the Netball Constellation Cup) subject to further advice being provided on how these group arrivals could be managed to minimise MIQ resourcing impacts and any displacement effect for returning New Zealanders.
2. Further advice on aspects of other proposals was also sought, including greater detail on group numbers and travel arrangements. A summary table of the discussion noting where Ministers sought further advice is appended as **Annex One**.
3. This paper provides the requested extra information to guide decisions on potential “packages” of exceptions.

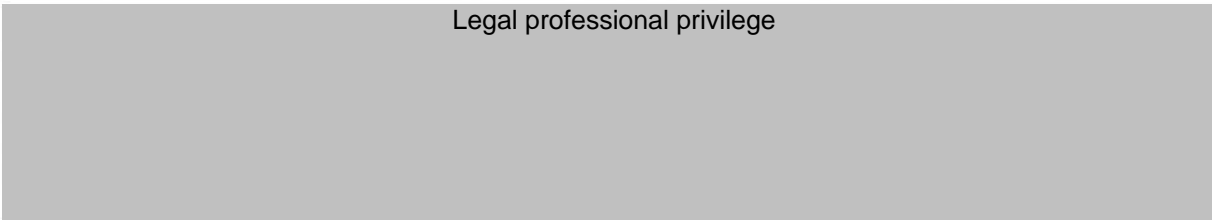
## Decisions on proposals with lower impact and flexibility in travel

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4. Senior Officials continue to recommend that Ministers confirm decisions taken in principle at the meeting on 9 December, subject to further advice provided, on the following:
  - a. Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme
  - b. 1,000 international students
  - c. Superyachts – owners of competing America’s cup yachts
5. The further advice sought is provided at **Annex Two**. Officials confirm that these groups have lower impact on MIQ capacity as they will be required to book places in MIAS as and when they become available, rather than requiring bespoke MIQ arrangements. Officials have not been able to check the impact of a delay in arrivals for the Kāinga Ora proposal at this time.
6. Officials also recommend that Ministers approve the addition of replacement international fishing crew to the government-approved programmes list as soon as possible due to legal and international relations considerations. These workers are not required to undergo MIQ. We understand that the Minister of Foreign Affairs is being provided advice on this over the weekend, and, subject to her approval, we recommend seeking agreement from the Ministerial Group through the circulation of this briefing as soon as possible.

## Current pressures on the MIQ system

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7. Demand for places in our managed isolation facilities early next year exceeds supply, with travellers now unable to secure a managed isolation voucher (in most cases) until late February. On 1 December, the average wait time for a MIQ voucher was 2 months, 9 days. As of writing this had increased to 2 months, 15 days. By the end of December, it is anticipated travellers will need to wait three months before being able to secure a voucher.
8.  Legal professional privilege
9. Demand for MIQ also continues to mount from critical workers that are eligible to enter under present border settings. MBIE has fielded a large number of emergency allocation requests

and complaints from employers concerned about timeframes for entry into New Zealand and the negative impacts of such delays for delivering projects which are reliant on overseas workers. Recent high profile requests have come in from the Tiwai smelter, Glenbrook Power Station, and the Visy glass factory, which all require workers for essential maintenance. If critical workers cannot enter New Zealand in a timely manner under current settings, this undermines the case for a further broadening of border exception categories.

### **High-needs groups place a considerable strain on the MIQ system**

10. Our ability to accommodate groups is not just limited by available rooms, but also by our ability to plan for and provide the more resource-intensive services (e.g. increased testing, translators and additional welfare) that these groups often require. For example, in order to manage the Wallabies bespoke MIQ training arrangements safely this required additional resource for security measures, secure transport to and from the venue, additional health resource and additional cleaning.
11. High-needs groups (such as sports teams) with bespoke requirements, also tend to have greater MIQ system impacts than other types of travellers. This is because they typically require a whole facility or an entire wing of a facility to be ring-fenced for their exclusive use in order to be able to accommodate their needs safely. While a facility is emptied to prepare for a group's arrival, rooms in the facility cannot be used by other travellers. Once a group reaches the end of their stay in MIQ, there is a similar steep drop-off in room occupancy that cannot always be met by the number of incoming arrivals.
12. There are also operational limits when it comes to how many groups with bespoke needs MIQ can safely manage at any one time (e.g. it is not operationally feasible to host four sports teams contemporaneously in the one facility that require access to gyms) without unacceptably increasing the public health risk or strain on our MIQ workforce. Typically, per fortnight, the limit is two or three groups with bespoke requirements – split between Christchurch and Auckland – as these centres are better resourced to provide any wraparound support services.
13. Arrivals of groups also need to be staggered to ensure major activities are not concurrent e.g. arrival processing, day 3 testing, day 12 testing, and exit processing. These major activities require considerable resources to manage safely, which are compounded when groups are particularly large.
14. When MIQ is operating at, or near full capacity (as will be the case early next year), there is little 'fat' left in the system for MIQ Operations to be able to support groups that require complex or bespoke arrangements. Between January and March what spare capacity is available, will be diverted to supporting arriving groups of Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) workers, deep sea fishing crew and refugees. As RSE workers and refugees will be accommodated in Auckland that only leaves Christchurch as an option for hosting groups during this period. Other regions cannot accommodate bespoke arrangements due to staffing and resourcing constraints.
15. Accommodating all of the proposed new class exceptions at their preferred time would result in MIQ exceeding its safe operating capacity. We cannot use the rooms that are set aside for contingency purposes to cover this excess demand. The contingency is needed to ensure MBIE is able to respond in the event that an earthquake or fire takes one of our facilities offline. Nor do we have the option of being able to cancel MIQ vouchers already booked by travellers for this period.
16. This calls for strict prioritisation of group requests for MIQ space and resources. Ministers will need to make trade-offs between groups and decline some requests to ensure that the MIQ system can continue to operate within safe parameters and that those with an existing legal right to enter New Zealand can do so within a reasonable timeframe.



## Principles to underpin allocation decisions

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17. To enable ministers to make decisions on group arrivals in the short-term, officials temporarily set aside 500 managed isolation rooms per fortnight for group arrivals in early 2021. This was a precautionary number. We consider that this number is likely to be too high given the demands outlined above for MIQ space and will be providing further advice to Ministers on this early in the New Year.
18. While groups already approved for MIQ entry such as RSE workers will fill most of these 500 rooms set aside, there will be some rooms remaining that could be used to accommodate new class exception groups or other travellers (such as New Zealanders) seeking to enter over this period.
19. When making these allocation decisions, we suggest the following principles be used to inform decisions:
  - a. **Public health risks are kept manageable:** Decisions take into account the impact of MIQ on the public health system and protect the health, wellbeing and safety of New Zealanders.
  - b. **Avoidance of unjustified limitations on New Zealanders legal right of entry:** Decisions on the allocation of places take into account the legal right of New Zealand citizens and permanent residents to return without undue delay.
  - c. **Fair and equitable:** Decisions weigh up the full picture of demand for MIQ from a range of groups, including New Zealanders, critical workers (including health care workers), temporary work visa holders normally resident in New Zealand, and family members and dependents of New Zealanders. Any decisions to allow new class exceptions comes at the direct expense of other groups or individuals.
  - d. **Maximisation of MIQ capacity:** Given the cost of the MIQ system, MIQ resources are used efficiently to ensure MIQ continues to operate as a sustainable public health measure and advances the Government's economic and social policy objectives.
  - e. **Certainty:** Travellers can rely on confirmed MIAS bookings as a basis on which to organise their affairs.

### Recommended approach

20. Officials continue to recommend that Ministers prioritise releasing capacity into the MIAS system over approving new class exceptions, to help ensure entry for high-value critical workers and to reduce delays for New Zealanders waiting to return home. However, if Ministers do wish to approve further class exceptions, we have developed the following advice on how these could be accommodated.
21. Ministers have two options for considering groups requiring bespoke arrangements over the January – March 2021 period:
  - a. Option 1 – Recommended – Some rooms released back into MIAS; priority groups accommodated, and staggered entry of sports groups through until late March.
  - b. Option 2 – Not recommended – All 500 rooms are used for groups already approved (i.e. RSE workers) and by new class exception groups approved in principle by Ministers. No rooms are released back into MIAS for other travellers to book.

## Options if Ministers wish to approve further class exceptions for groups

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22. Following the Ministerial Group meeting, officials have worked with lead agencies to determine if any of the proposals have flexibility in terms of their arrival dates and numbers. Sports New Zealand is trying to negotiate later travel dates for the cricket teams. Netball New Zealand has indicated that they have little flexibility to move on their preferred entry date of late January for the Australian Diamond Netball team, due players' domestic competition commitments.
23. MBIE Tourism will explore options for possible later travel dates for the Late Show with Stephen Colbert proposal. However, the commemorative events proposals have limited flexibility in terms of travel dates, given that the events are within fixed dates. Further information is provided at Annex Two. The table in the annex also captures the further advice sought by Ministers on the likely flow of international students, and how to manage demand for the commemorative events proposals.
24. In view of the above principles, and MIQ operating limits, we have developed the below package of options that Ministers may wish to consider. These options are based on the planning assumption that the sports teams will not be willing to come to New Zealand if they are not permitted to train while in managed isolation<sup>1</sup> and that the teams will show a degree of flexibility when it comes to their exact entry dates (not all sports teams will be able to be accommodated on their preferred dates).
25. Motorsport NZ has indicated that they have no flexibility to move on the dates for the Toyota Racing series and they have now opted to cancel the international component of their event. This group is therefore not factored into the options below.
26. Our planning assumptions for RSE have assumed twin-share arrangements. This is based on the original premise that RSE workers would arrive from low risk countries. The participation of high risk countries in this scheme would change this planning assumption and would require additional rooms to be assigned to RSE workers.
  - a. **Option 1 – Recommended – Some rooms released back into MIAS; priority groups accommodated, and staggered entry of sports groups through until late March.**
    - Of the 500 rooms put aside for groups in 2021, some are released back into MIAS (about 100, where possible) from 25 January for New Zealanders and other travellers to book.
    - The entry of the sports teams would be sequenced between late January and late March (see suggested entry dates in Annex 3) to minimise the overall impact on the MIQ system and optimise availability of training facilities and resources required to support them. Under this option, sports teams would be able to train while in MIQ, but only one sports team at a time will be able to be hosted in Christchurch, with some slight overlap between teams. This would also require the Australian Diamonds Netball team to shift their entry to late March (no earlier than 23 March). During periods of overlap, sports teams would have to agree to a compromised training schedule (e.g. teams train on alternate days).

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<sup>1</sup> There is a third option which we have not canvassed in any detail in this paper, which is to agree to allow the entry of the sports teams on a "rooms only" basis on the dates they want to enter (i.e. no training permitted).

- Visitors for the Commemorative events will be able to enter during the indicated timeframes in Annex 2 (e.g. early to mid-February).
- Under this option, the Colbert production crew could also be accommodated in Christchurch if their arrival date is no earlier than 11 March.
- Cargo crew servicing the Pacific could come in under this scenario, as well as workers for the Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme, but only if they are directed to secure their places in MIAS as and when places become available, as per other critical workers and travellers wanting to enter early next year.

- b. **Option 2 – Not recommended** – All 500 rooms are used for groups already approved (i.e. RSE workers) and by new class exception groups approved in principle by Ministers. No rooms are released back into MIAS for other travellers to book. Sports teams would be accommodated as per above (and on the dates noted in **Annex 3**). Under this scenario since we have some spare room capacity, we could accommodate additional non-complex groups wanting to come in early 2021 (i.e. reserve specific places for them), such as the cargo crew servicing the Pacific that require entry dates between January and February, and the Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme that would like to have some workers enter in January.

27. Option 1 above is preferred on the basis that it helps to balance competing demands on MIQ at this time, and that other travellers currently unable to secure a place in MIAS such as New Zealanders wanting to return home and critical health care workers will also have an equal opportunity to book some of the rooms that have been provisionally set aside for early next year.

## **Upcoming advice on managing group demands for MIQ**

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28. Officials will provide you advice next week on a proposed ministerial decision making process for managing group demands on MIQ capacity and bespoke arrangements. Where groups require a class exception in order to get a visa, the Border Exceptions Ministerial Group considers the request and makes the decision to reserve space (as in this paper). However, not all groups placing demands on MIQ require a class exception (e.g. New Zealand sports teams or the US Antarctica programme) and at present the appropriate process for considering these requests is unclear.

## **Next steps**

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29. If you agree to the proposed 'package' of exceptions, officials will prepare a paper for Cabinet Business Committee on Wednesday 16 December to confirm these decisions and those taken in principle by the Ministerial Group.
30. Officials will also prepare communications material and immigration instructions for the Minister of Immigration to sign to implement any agreed exceptions, noting compressed timeframes before Christmas mean that implementation may be operationally difficult before the New Year for non-urgent proposals.

## **Annexes**

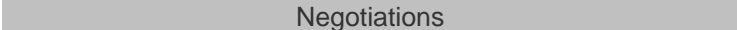
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Annex One: Summary of the Ministerial Group Meeting, 9 December

Annex Two: Further advice on travel arrangements for proposed groups

## **Annex One: Summary of Ministerial Group Meeting, 9 December**

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1. Ministers agreed in principle to the following exceptions:
  - 1.1 Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme, subject to timing of arrivals
  - 1.2 1,000 students, subject to further advice about arrival dates and likely flow of students (and agreed to higher living costs amount for the cohort)
  - 1.3 Superyachts – owners of competing America’s cup yachts
  - 1.4 “Summer of cricket” proposal – subject to advice on timing
  - 1.5 Constellation Cup – subject to flexibility on timing
2. Ministers deferred and/or sought further advice on the following proposals:
  - 2.1 Cargo crew servicing the Pacific – further advice sought on timing
  - 2.2 Replacement international fishing crew – further advice sought on risks in declining
  - 2.3 Superyachts – owners of yachts being refitted/refurbished (deferred)
  - 2.4 Superyachts – other visiting cruising yachts (deferred)
  - 2.5 Visitors for commemoration events:
    - 2.5.1 Christchurch earthquakes –further advice sought on numbers
    - 2.5.2 Christchurch mosque attacks – further advice sought on numbers
    - 2.5.3 Whaakari White Island – deferred to later in 2021
  - 2.6 Toyota racing series – further advice sought on timing (whether event can be held if dates pushed out)
  - 2.7  Negotiations

## Annex Two: Further advice on numbers and travel arrangements for proposed groups

Group	Numbers and flexibility in travel arrangements	Relative PH risks
Kāinga Ora programme	<p><b>Timing:</b> As and when workers can book places in MIAS in 2021 – no special arrangements</p> <p><b>Numbers:</b> estimated to be around 20 workers</p>	<p><b>Mixed:</b> Workers from from a range of countries with differing risk levels</p>
Priority returning degree and post-graduate international students (1,000)	<p>Ministers sought further information on arrival dates and likely flow of students.</p> <p><b>Timing:</b> All students will need to book a place in MIAS and will have a first entry date of April 2021 on their visa, meaning they cannot enter before this date. MOE will work closely with MBIE to manage demands on MIQ capacity.</p> <p>The proposal is for a staged approach to return:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 300 students (aim to enter April – May 2021) with ‘greatest need’</li> <li>2. 300 students (aim to enter May – June)</li> <li>3. Remaining 400 students (aim to enter June – July)</li> </ol> <p>It is important to signal the ability for a large cohort to return to New Zealand before most students start the 2021 study year in late February or early March. This is naturally a time when students review and consider their options in regard to future study. An early signal will encourage students to remain enrolled and incentivise them to continue blended online learning at the start of the semester ahead of their re-entry into New Zealand.</p> <p>In addition, approval of this exception class in December would further reiterate to prospective international students that New Zealand continues to value international education and assist in sustaining future demand for study in New Zealand while entry for new students isn’t possible.</p> <p>Providers have noted their intention to provide wrap around support for students in MIQ which will</p>	<p><b>Mixed:</b> Students from a wide range of countries with differing risk levels</p>

Group	Numbers and flexibility in travel arrangements	Relative PH risks
	include any language, mental health and wellbeing and study support. . These students will already have spent time in New Zealand and so will be familiar with New Zealand systems, have networks and connections here and are likely to require limited language support.	
<p>Visitors for commemoration events – Christchurch earthquakes and Christchurch mosque attacks</p> <p>(victim’s families and foreign dignitaries)</p>	<p><b>Numbers:</b> Up to 25 for each event (50 total)</p> <p>Ministers sought further information on how demand for these proposed exceptions would be managed. Senior officials continue to recommend a total of up to 50 people (25 for each event) are approved to enter for the 10th Anniversary of the Christchurch Earthquakes and the Christchurch Terrorist Attack 2nd Anniversary. Officials assessed that 50 people is appropriate based on the following considerations:</p> <p>a. The significant MIQ constraints in early 2021 and the cost of MIQ being a barrier to entry to most potential applicants;</p> <p>b. The low number of entry requests received by MFAT to attend commemorative events next year (there has only been one inquiry submitted to MFAT to date) and the time associated with MIQ which will deter most foreign dignitaries;</p> <p>c. The existing pathways to enter New Zealand that exist for both the significant number of family members affected by the Christchurch attacks who were granted resident-class visas in 2019 and for foreign diplomats (who are the most likely foreign-government representatives to attend); and</p> <p>d. The recent attendance of 47 affected family members and support persons at the August 2020 Christchurch attacks sentencing, which may reduce their desire to return to New Zealand within the same year.</p> <div data-bbox="459 1173 1720 1316" style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Confidential information to Government</div> <p><b>Timing:</b> Before 5 February for Christchurch earthquakes commemorative event on 22 February</p>	<p><b>Earthquakes: Japan</b> families of language students from CCTV building <b>risk level = high</b></p> <p>Remaining visitors from a wide range of countries with differing risk levels</p> <p><b>Mosque attacks:</b> Visitors from a wide range of countries with differing risk levels</p>

Group	Numbers and flexibility in travel arrangements	Relative PH risks
	Before 25 February for Christchurch attacks commemorative event on 15 March	
"Summer of cricket"	<p><b>Numbers:</b> Four teams, comprising -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English Women's team – 28 members</li> <li>• Australian Women's team – 29 members</li> <li>• Australian men's team – 32 members</li> <li>• Bangladeshi men's team - 40 members</li> </ul> <p><b>Timing:</b> Preferred dates ranging from late January to early March. Officials are working with Cricket NZ to shift dates of entry to that outlined in Annex 3.</p>	<p><b>Mixed:</b> Varying levels of risk for each team.</p> <p><b>Australia risk level = low</b> (for week beginning 29/11).</p> <p><b>England risk level = high</b> (for week beginning 29/11).</p> <p><b>Bangladesh risk level = high</b> (for week beginning 29/11).</p>
The Late Show with Stephen Colbert	<p><b>Numbers:</b> Up to 25 people</p> <p><b>Timing:</b> Preferred travel date - February</p> <p>Ministers agreed to defer this until later in 2021.</p> <p>Lead agency (MBIE Tourism) will explore possible later dates with the producers.</p> <p>MIQ could accommodate entry if arrival date is no earlier than 11 March.</p>	<p><b>USA risk level = high</b> (for week beginning 29/11)</p> <p>However, high level of compliance with MIF rules expected</p>
Constellation Cup – netball	<p><b>Numbers:</b> Up to 30 people (20 team members plus support staff)</p> <p><b>Timing:</b> Preferred travel date – Mid January</p> <p>Have indicated that March entry dates would likely not work due to players' domestic commitments.</p>	<p><b>Australia risk level = low</b> (for week beginning 29/11)</p> <p>High level of compliance with MIF rules expected</p>

Group	Numbers and flexibility in travel arrangements	Relative PH risks																														
	MIQ can only accommodate a late March entry.	from female sports teams																														
Toyota Racing Series	<p><b>Numbers:</b> &lt;36 participants</p> <p><b>Timing:</b> Preferred travel date – Mid-January</p> <p>The organisers of the event are unable to arrange later dates and so the international component of the event is being cancelled.</p>	<b>Mixed</b> – participants from a range of countries with varying risk levels																														
Cargo crew servicing the Pacific	<p>Ministers asked whether the arrival of these crew members can be deferred to February 2021.</p> <p>In January 2021, we are anticipating that <i>Neptune Pacific</i> will need to bring in 10 crew across 4 vessels. It is likely that the crew change for 10 members of the Neptune Pacific vessels can be deferred to February 2021. MFAT will work with the ship's agent directly if required.</p> <p>Anticipated numbers are provided in the table below, based on the information supplied by cargo companies. We understand that they are currently planning to undertake the following crew changes in 2020, this is subject to change over the course of the year.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="454 842 1702 1222"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="454 842 875 906">Company</th> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="875 842 1702 906">2021</th> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 906 875 970"></td> <th data-bbox="875 906 1014 970">Jan</th> <th data-bbox="1014 906 1211 970">Feb</th> <th data-bbox="1211 906 1431 970">Mar</th> <th data-bbox="1431 906 1702 970">Jun</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 970 875 1034"><i>Matsons</i></td> <td data-bbox="875 970 1014 1034"></td> <td data-bbox="1014 970 1211 1034"></td> <td data-bbox="1211 970 1431 1034"></td> <td data-bbox="1431 970 1702 1034">45 (TBC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1034 875 1098"><i>Silver Supporter</i></td> <td colspan="4" data-bbox="875 1034 1702 1098">24 over 12 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1098 875 1161"><i>Neptune Pacific</i></td> <td data-bbox="875 1098 1014 1161">10</td> <td data-bbox="1014 1098 1211 1161">17</td> <td data-bbox="1211 1098 1431 1161">15</td> <td data-bbox="1431 1098 1702 1161"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1161 875 1222"></td> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="875 1161 1431 1222"></td> <td data-bbox="1431 1161 1702 1222"><b>203</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Company	2021					Jan	Feb	Mar	Jun	<i>Matsons</i>				45 (TBC)	<i>Silver Supporter</i>	24 over 12 months				<i>Neptune Pacific</i>	10	17	15						<b>203</b>	<b>Moderate to high risk groups (mixed)</b> – source countries include Russia, Ukraine, the Philippines – risk level depends on source country and travel route to NZ
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				<b>203</b>																												



### Annex Three: Proposed entry dates for sports teams (under both Options 1 & 2)

Sport team	Proposed entry date
Cricket (English women's team)	26 January (requested 31 January)
Cricket (Australian women's team)	7 February (as requested)
Cricket (Australian men's team)	12 February (7 February requested)
Cricket (Bangladesh men's team)	24 February and 10 March (as requested)
Netball (Australian Diamonds)	23 March (20 January requested)

### Recommended Option Overview

