



AIDE MEMOIRE

Follow-up question 5 for the COVID-19 Minister

Date:	29 November 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:		Tracking number:	2122-1985

Information for Minister(s)
Hon Chris Hipkins Minister for COVID-19 Response

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Privacy of natural persons	Manager – Ministerial Engagement, MIQ		Privacy of natural persons ✓

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

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 Withdrawn |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

Response to question 5 from the Health Committee, for the Minister for COVID-19 Response.

Privacy of natural persons

Manager – Ministerial Engagement, Office of Deputy Secretary
MIQ, MBIE

29.11.2021

Estimates question 5 for the Minister for COVID-19 Response

Q5. Did the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the MIQ team ask the Ministry of Health to update the risk assessment framework for people leaving MIQ early? If so, on what date was the request to update the framework made?

Q:

Did the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the MIQ team ask the Ministry of Health to update the risk assessment framework for people leaving MIQ early? If so, on what date was the request to update the framework made?

A:

On 1 September 2021, the General Manager of National Operations Services (MIQ) emailed the Group Manager COVID-19 Border and Managed Isolation (MoH) about the public health risk tool used to determine eligibility for temporary or early release from MIQ.

The email raised two specific pieces of feedback about the public health risk tool and requested a meeting to discuss. Neither of these related to the vaccination status of the person seeking the exemption.

Subsequently, on 26 October 2021 the GM of Policy (MIQ) contacted the Manager, Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MoH) by both phone and email escalating the urgency of work on revisiting public health risk tool given the changed public health advice around the length of MIQ stay.

MBIE did not raise the way the tool treated the vaccination status as an issue, but rather was interested that the tool quickly evolve with the changing MIQ settings, in particular the move to shorter seven day stays.

Revisions to the public health tool were undertaken with urgency on 27 and 28 October. An interim tool was signed by the Director General of Health on 28 October and implemented on 29 October. This tool included consideration of the vaccination status of the applicant. A further amended public health tool was approved on 12 November by the Director General of Health and is currently in use.