



## AIDE MEMOIRE

### Update on MIQ room usage following move to 7-day stays

<b>Date:</b>	24 November 2021	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security classification:</b>		<b>Tracking number:</b>	2122-1896

#### 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, Allocation and Supply, MIQ Policy	Privacy of natural persons	✓
	Policy Advisor		

**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 Withdrawn           |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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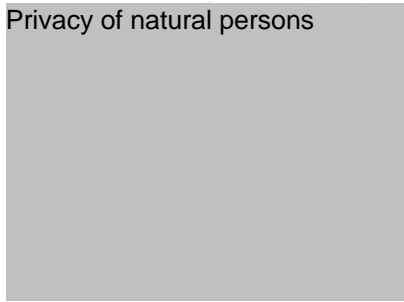
### Purpose

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To update you on MIQ room usage following the move to 7-day stays, including:

- MIQ's intention to use 33-day periods when referencing MIQ allocations
- MIQ's operational capacity and the proportion of rooms used by offline allocations.

Privacy of natural persons



**Manager, Allocation and Supply**  
MIQ Policy, MBIE

24 / 11 / 2021

### MIQ will now reference 33-day periods in advice on allocations

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1. On 14 November 2021, MIQ transitioned from a 14-day to a 7-day stay operating model [2122-1661 refers]. Accounting for infill and cleaning, MIQ has shifted from a 20-day cycle (4 days infill, 14 day stay, 2 days cleaning) to an 11-day cycle (2 days infill, 7 day stay, 2 days cleaning).
2. For clarity, MIQ will now refer to 33-day periods, rather than 'months', when providing advice around allocations. 33 days corresponds to exactly three 11-day cycles.
3. MIQ's website will also be updated to provide an overview of capacity and allocations on this basis.

### MIQ operational capacity and offline allocations

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4. Following the shift to an 11-day cycle, MIQ's current operational capacity for standard border returnees is approximately 11,500 rooms per 33 days. This figure varies depending on factors such as rooms offline for maintenance, and does not include facilities currently used to support the community outbreak, nor rooms used for aircrew/maritime or administrative purposes.

5. At any one time, around 7-10% of this capacity is kept as reserve.
6. MIQ's current offline allocations, which we are now implementing on a 33-day basis, are as follows:

Emergency allocation	800 rooms [2122-1009/2 refers] (~7% of operational capacity)  <i>This is currently proving sufficient to accommodate all eligible applications; to date, MIQ has not declined any emergency allocations due to capacity constraints. MIQ can draw on operational contingency for short-term demand spikes, and would provide you with advice if there was a sustained increase in demand beyond the set aside allocation.</i>
Time sensitive travel allocation	Currently: ~258 rooms (increased to accommodate all eligible applications) (~2% of operational capacity)  From 2022 onwards: 400 rooms (will be lower for January-February 2022, as less applications than this were received) (~3% of operational capacity)  [2122-0627 refers]
Group allocation	Currently ~1200 rooms (10% of operational capacity) (including original groups package, plus recent out-of-cycle approvals for critical health workers [2122-1350 refers], Ministerial travel [2122-1253 refers], and the sports and cultural sectors [2122-1803 refers])  <i>Advice on a groups package for March to May 2022 will be provided to Border Ministers later in November</i>

7. This leaves approximately 8,300 rooms per 33-day cycle, or around 72% of operational capacity, for release on MIAS.
8. In practice, offline allocation arrivals can be 'lumpy'. Where possible, unneeded rooms from offline allocations are released onto MIAS.
9. Demand for offline allocations will likely significantly reduce as the Reconnecting New Zealanders medium-risk pathway is implemented over the coming months.