



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Michael Wood	<b>Portfolio</b>	Immigration
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Indexing the Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme Wage Threshold to the New Zealand Minimum Wage from 1 October 2023	<b>Date to be published</b>	5 July 2023

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
March 2023	Indexing the Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme Wage Threshold to the New Zealand Minimum Wage from 1 October 2023	Office of the Minister of Immigration
27 March 2023	Indexing the Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme Wage Threshold to the New Zealand Minimum Wage from 1 October 2023 CAB-23-MIN-0102 Minute	Cabinet Office

### Information redacted

**NO**

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's and MFAT'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.



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### Indexing the Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme Wage Threshold to the New Zealand Minimum Wage from 1 October 2023

Portfolio                      Immigration

On 27 March 2023, Cabinet:

- 1        **noted** that in September 2021, the Cabinet Business Committee increased the wage threshold for all Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) workers to \$22.10 [CBC-21-SUB-0089], and the intention to index the RSE wage threshold to the New Zealand minimum wage was also signalled to Cabinet at that time;
- 2        **noted** that the Minister for Social Development and Employment and Minister of Agriculture were consulted and have confirmed their support for indexing the RSE wage threshold to 10 percent above the New Zealand minimum wage from 1 April 2023;
- 3        **noted** that the horticulture and viticulture sector was consulted on the proposal to index the RSE wage threshold;
- 4        **noted** that the horticulture and viticulture sector has requested a delay to the implementation of the proposed indexation;
- 5        **noted** that Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in significant loss for the horticulture and viticulture industry, particularly in regions with a high proportion of RSE employers and workers;
- 6        **noted** that delaying implementation to 1 October 2023 achieves the intended outcome of the indexation while recognising the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle on the horticulture and viticulture industry;
- 7        **noted** that under the Immigration Act 2009, this change can be made through immigration instructions;
- 8        **noted** that the Minister of Immigration has determined to index the RSE wage threshold requiring 10 percent above the New Zealand minimum wage, and moving in line with annual minimum wage increases, from 1 October 2023.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet