



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Andrew Little	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Eligibility for Immediate Family Members Under the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship Category Pilot	Date to be published	2 October 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
August 2023	Eligibility for Immediate Family Members Under the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship Category Pilot	Office of the Minister of Immigration
16 August 2023	Eligibility for Immediate Family Members Under the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship Category Pilot DEV-23-MIN-0174 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE'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 Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Eligibility for Immediate Family Members Under the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship Category Pilot

Portfolio Immigration

On 16 August 2023, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that current settings for the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship category mean that refugees can only include their partners and dependent children in their application if they are also mandated refugees;
- 2 **agreed** to extend the eligibility criteria for the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship category to include partners and dependent children of sponsored refugees, regardless of their refugee status;
- 3 **agreed** that partners and dependent children of refugees be included within the 150 places of the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship category;
- 4 **noted** that there are no additional costs associated with the above change, as the partners and dependent children would be included within the established 150 places for the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship category;
- 5 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration will certify amendments to Immigration Instructions in line with Cabinet's decisions;
- 6 **noted** that the changes will apply to residence applications made on and after the Immigration Instructions take effect, and cannot retrospectively apply to existing residence applications already lodged with Immigration New Zealand.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present: (see over)

Present:

Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Andrew Little
Hon David Parker (Chair)
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Hon Ginny Andersen
Hon Dr Deborah Russell
Hon Rachel Brooking
Hon Jo Luxton

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV