



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Andrew Little	<b>Portfolio</b>	Immigration
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Immigration Rebalance: Green List changes	<b>Date to be published</b>	18 October 2023

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
December 2022	Immigration Rebalance: Green List changes	Office of the Minister of Immigration
7 December 2022	Immigration Rebalance: Proposed Green List changes DEV-22-MIN-0303 Minute	Cabinet Office
12 December 2022	Immigration Rebalance: Proposed Green List changes CAB-22-MIN-0569 Minute	Cabinet Office
7 November 2022	Briefing: 2223-1689 Potential Green List additions	MBIE
18 November 2022	Briefing: 2223-1773: Draft Cabinet paper – Immigration Rebalance Green List changes	MBIE

### Information redacted

**YES / NO** (please select)

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.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of confidential advice to government, privacy of natural persons and free and frank opinions.



# Cabinet

## 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.*

### Immigration Rebalance: Proposed Green List Changes

**Portfolio**                      **Immigration**

On 12 December 2022, following reference from the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV), Cabinet:

- 1        **noted** that in September 2022, Cabinet invited the Minister of Immigration to report back in early 2023 with proposals for potential additions to the Green List to address any critical gaps as part of advice to confirm new Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) settings, which will work alongside the Green List residence pathways [CAB-22-MIN-0145];
- 2        **agreed** to make changes to the Green List now, in place of specific Green List proposals as part of the forthcoming report back on new SMC settings;
- 3        **noted** that a more systematic review of the Green List is scheduled for mid-2023;
- 4        **noted** that the Minister of Immigration has made decisions to include all medical doctors on the Green List and will certify immigration instructions shortly to give effect to that decision;
- 5        **agreed** to move all registered nurses and midwives from the Green List work to residence pathway to the Green List straight to residence pathway, noting that pay parity work underway in the health sector should help to resolve the retention issue discussed in paragraph 43 of the paper under CAB-22-SUB-0569;
- 6        Confidential advice to Government [REDACTED]
- 7        **directed** health and immigration officials to report back to DEV in early 2023 with specific criteria and a list of occupations where:

Confidential advice to Government [REDACTED]

- 8 **noted** that registered Early Childhood Education teachers and some specialisations of secondary school teachers are on the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 9 **agreed** to add all secondary school teachers to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 10 **agreed** to add primary school teachers to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 11 **agreed** to add auditors to the Green List straight to residence pathway;
- 12 **agreed** to add halal slaughterers to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 13 **agreed** to add skilled motor mechanics to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 14 **agreed** to add skilled telecommunications technicians to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 15 **agreed** to add construction supervisors (specifically civil construction supervisors) to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 16 **agreed** to add gasfitters to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 17 **agreed** to add drainlayers to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 18 **agreed** to add skilled crane operators to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 19 **agreed** to add skilled civil machine operators: Earthmoving Plant Operator (General), Backhoe Operator, Bulldozer Operator, Excavator Operator, Grader Operator, and Loader Operator to the Green List work to residence pathway;
- 20 **authorised** the Minister of Immigration to make any ancillary decisions required to give effect to the decisions in paragraphs 9-19, including precise role description, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations categorisation, and any skill or registration requirements;
- 21 **agreed in principle** to provide a residence pathway through a sector agreement for bus drivers and truck drivers, **subject to** paragraph 23;
- 22 **directed** officials to briefly consult transport sector representatives on paragraph 21;
- 23 **invited** the Minister of Immigration to finalise the detailed settings for a bus driver and truck driver sector agreement in 2023;
- 24 **noted** that changes for registered nurses, midwives, and medical doctors will be implemented in December 2022, and the remaining changes will be implemented in the first quarter of 2023;
- 25 **agreed** to extend all employer accreditations under the Accredited Employer Work Visa applied for before 4 July 2023 by 12 months, to support employers while they are adjusting to the new system;
- 26 **agreed** that the revenue shortfall from extending accreditation (estimated at up to \$28 million in 2023/24) will be recovered from employers by increasing accreditation fees at the next fees review;

27 **agreed** to defer the expansion of the accreditation system to cover all migrants (including open work rights visa holders) from mid-2023 until 2024.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet