



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Andrew Little	<b>Portfolio</b>	Immigration
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Expanding access to the Victims of Family Violence Work Visa	<b>Date to be published</b>	14 November 2023

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
December 2022	Expanding access to the Victims of Family Violence Work Visa	Office of the Minister of Immigration
7 December 2022	Expanding access to the Victims of Family Violence Work Visa SWC-22-MIN-0238 Minute	Cabinet Office
3 November 2022	Partners of temporary migrants' eligibility for support after family violence	Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment

### 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 to maintain the privacy of natural persons, the confidentiality of advice to government and New Zealand's international relations.



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing 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.*

---

### Expanding Access to the Victims of Family Violence Work Visa

**Portfolio**                      **Immigration**

On 7 December 2022, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

- 1        **noted** that the Victims of Family Violence Visas are currently only available to partners of New Zealand citizens and residents;
- 2        **agreed** to extend access to the Victims of Family Violence Work Visa to people who hold a partner-based visa based on their relationship to another temporary migrant (as identified in Appendix One, attached to the submission under SWC-22-SUB-0238);
- 3        **noted** that qualifying partners of temporary migrants who are in family violence situations would receive a six-month open work visa, but will not give access to social support or to the Victims of Family Violence Resident Visa (as it does for partners of New Zealanders), without further work being progressed as outlined in paragraph 5;
- 4        **authorised** the Minister of Immigration to finalise Victims of Family Violence Work Visa implementation details, and take decisions on minor technical matters, in alignment with the decisions under SWC-22-MIN-0238;
- 5        **agreed** to progress further work considering changes to:
  - 5.1        immigration settings, including eligibility, evidence, and accessibility issues with the Victims of Family Violence Visas, residence pathways, and impacts for perpetrators;
  - 5.2        wider support settings for migrant victims of family violence, including whether access to financial support should be provided for this group and to what degree, prevention and response activities for migrant/ethnic communities, and the treatment of migrant children and young people who are impacted by family violence;
- 6        **authorised** the Minister of Immigration, along with the Ministers for Social Development and Employment; Children; Justice; Women; Pacific Peoples; Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities; and Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence to take further decisions on the scope of the future work programme for wider support settings outlined in paragraph 5.2;
- 7        **directed** the relevant agencies, led by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, to develop options and advice on the scope of work on wider support settings for migrant victims of family violence, to be provided to the Ministers identified in paragraph 6, in early 2023;

- 8 **noted** that the change outlined in paragraph 2 is estimated to incur additional costs of \$0.124 million per annum for Immigration New Zealand;
- 9 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decisions in paragraph 8 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 and outyears
<b>Vote Labour Market Minister of Immigration</b>					
<b>Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:</b> Immigration Services MCA					
<b>Departmental Output Expenses:</b> Assessment and Processing (funded by revenue Crown)	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124

- 10 **agreed** that the change to appropriations for 2022/23 above be included in the 2022/23 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increase be met from Imprest Supply;
- 11 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraph 8 be charged against the between-Budget contingency established as part of Budget 2022.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

---

**Present:**

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Hon Grant Robertson  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)  
Hon Andrew Little  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Peeni Henare  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Jan Tinetti  
Hon Michael Wood  
Hon Kiri Allan  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan  
Hon Meka Whaitiri

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Office of the Chair  
Officials Committee for SWC