



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Erica Stanford	<b>Portfolio</b>	Immigration
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Amendments to the Green List	<b>Date to be published</b>	24 April 2024

<b>List of documents that have been proactively released</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
March 2024	Amendments to the Green List	Office of Minister of Immigration
20 March 2024	Amendments to the Green List ECO-24-MIN-0024 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 Policy 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.*

---

### Amendments to the Green List

**Portfolio**                      **Immigration**

On 20 March 2024, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO):

- 1        **noted** that:
  - 1.1        in August 2023, the previous Government agreed to add eleven occupations to the Green List as a result of a review conducted after one year of the List's operation [DEV-23-MIN-0199];
  - 1.2        the above planned additions to the Green List were announced and originally scheduled to go live in March 2024;
- 2        **noted** that since the above decisions were made, New Zealand's economic and labour market context has shifted, including high net migration and a softening of the labour market;
- 3        **agreed** to pause the addition of the following roles to the Green List:
  - 3.1        Paving Plant Operator;
  - 3.2        Metal Fabricator;
  - 3.3        Pressure Welder;
  - 3.4        Welder;
  - 3.5        Fitter (General);
  - 3.6        Fitter and Turner;
  - 3.7        Fitter-Welder;
  - 3.8        Metal Machinist (First Class);
  - 3.9        Panel Beater;
  - 3.10       Vehicle Painter;
  - 3.11       Road Roller Operator;

- 4 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration (the Minister) intends to progress with adding the following six occupations to the Green List in early April 2024;
- 4.1 Aviation Engineer (Avionics, Aeronautical, Aerospace Engineer);
  - 4.2 Naval Architects (aka Marine Designer);
  - 4.3 ICT Database and System Administrator;
  - 4.4 Mechanical Engineering Technician;
  - 4.5 Aircraft Maintenance Engineer;
  - 4.6 Corrections Officer;
- 5 **noted** that the Minister is shifting Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineers from the Work to Residence to the Straight to Residence pathway under the Green List;

### **Adding secondary school teachers to the Straight to Residence pathway under the Green List**

- 6 **noted** that shortages in secondary teachers, especially those with specific subject skills, have been an ongoing challenge for the New Zealand education workforce;
- 7 **noted** that secondary school teachers are currently on the Work to Residence pathway under the Green List;
- 8 **noted** that adding secondary school teachers to the Straight to Residence Pathway under the Green List is intended to provide the following key benefits;
- 8.1 provide some attraction benefits by using the Straight to Residence pathway Green List which is considered a desirable attraction tool in a globally competitive market;
  - 8.2 support existing overseas recruitment initiatives being led by the Ministry of Education;
  - 8.3 provide increased certainty and a more streamlined residency application process for both applicants and Immigration New Zealand by enabling overseas teachers to apply for residence from outside New Zealand without having to first accumulate work experience in New Zealand;
- 9 **noted** that, given the existing residence pathways available to overseas teachers, officials do not expect this change to have a significant impact on the volumes of overseas teachers who choose to come to New Zealand, and that the risk of making this change is likely to be low;
- 10 **agreed** to add secondary school teachers to the Straight to Residence Pathway under the Green List;
- 11 **noted** that the Minister will certify new immigration instructions under Section 22 of the Immigration Act 2009 to give effect to the above decisions;
- 12 **noted** that Immigration New Zealand will implement the above change in May 2024.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

---

**Attendance (see over)**

**Present:**

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon  
Hon David Seymour  
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)  
Hon Chris Bishop  
Hon Simeon Brown  
Hon Erica Stanford  
Hon Judith Collins  
Hon Todd McClay  
Hon Tama Potaka  
Hon Matt Doocey  
Hon Melissa Lee  
Hon Simon Watts  
Hon Penny Simmonds  
Hon Chris Penk  
Hon Andrew Bayly  
Hon Andrew Hoggard  
Simon Court MP  
Jenny Marcroft MP

**Officials present from:**

Office of Hon Judith Collins  
Office of Hon Andrew Bayly  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment  
Officials Committee for ECO