



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Erica Stanford	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Improving the Integrity of the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa	Date to be published	17 October 2024

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
August 2024	Improving the Integrity of the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa	Office of the Minister of Immigration
21 August 2024	Improving the Integrity of the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa ECO-24-MIN-0167 Minute	Cabinet Office

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.



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.

Improving the Integrity of the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa Settings

Portfolio **Immigration**

On 21 August 2024, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee:

- 1 **noted** that in 2023, changes were made to extend the duration of the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa, at the same time that a short-term financial support package was introduced [CAB-23-MIN-0443];
- 2 **noted** that in the last financial year there has been an exponential increase in claims of exploitation and applications for the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa;
- 3 **noted** that the current settings for the Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa are creating perverse incentives for migrants, and pose undue risk to the integrity of the immigration system;
- 4 **noted** that, in response to the above risk, the Minister of Immigration (the Minister) intends to certify Immigration Instructions, to remove the second Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa, limiting the maximum duration for a migrant to be on this type of visa to six months;
- 5 **noted** that the Minister intends to direct officials to make a number of changes to the definition of exploitation (for the purposes of the Employment Services assessment) to:
 - 5.1 clarify that redundancy and termination that follows legal process is not exploitation;
 - 5.2 specify that exploitation must be carried out by, or on behalf, of a migrant's employer.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present: (see over)

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon David Seymour
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Judith Collins KC
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Todd McClay
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Melissa Lee
Hon Chris Penk
Hon Penny Simmonds
Hon Andrew Bayly
Hon Mark Patterson
Simon Court MP
Jenny Marcroft MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of Hon Simeon Brown
Office of Hon Erica Stanford
Office of Simon Court MP
Officials Committee for ECO