



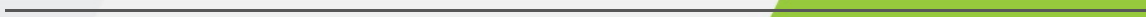
**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI



Immigration Fees and Levies Review

Summary of Submissions Report

August 2018



Ref	Date rcvd	Submitter name	Submitter category
1.	15/06/2018	NZ Marine	Industry Association
2.	20/07/2018	Tourism Industry Aotearoa	Industry Association
3.	20/07/2018	HospitalityNZ	Industry Association
4.	20/07/2018	BARNZ	Industry Association (Carriers)
5.	20/07/2018	English New Zealand Executive	Industry Association
6.	20/07/2018	Cruise Lines International	Industry Association (Carriers)
7.	22/07/2018	Restaurant Association of New Zealand	Industry Association
8.	22/07/2018	BusinessNZ	Industry Association
9.	22/07/2018	s 9(2)(a) 	Private Individual
10.	22/07/2018	Emirates	Carrier

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Overview of submissions

MBIE received a total of 9* submissions on the Immigration Fees and Levies Review.

Of these, the majority were from industry stakeholders, with three from airline and cruise industries and three from the tourism/hospitality industry. We also received a submission from the English language sector, one from a private individual, and one from BusinessNZ.

Some further comment was also received from Canterbury Mayoral Forum via a submission on the International Visitor and Conservation Levy.

**Note: A submission from NZ Marine has been excluded from this summary as it did not answer any of the questions or make any comment except to request that "payment system is easy for people on visiting yachts".*

Impacts of proposed changes on visa applicants

A number of submitters commented that it was important that fees were perceived to be reasonable and that they were on a cost-recovery only basis. It was suggested that the current review of INZ could lead to reduced processing costs associated with work visas and the employer accreditation platform.

Industry bodies noted that the need for migrant workers was ongoing and expected to increase, particularly in the hospitality industry. The Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) submission noted:

[The] demand for an immigration system that is timely, efficient and understands the needs of our industry.

Rebalancing of visa fees

Submitters expressed qualified support for the proposed changes across different visa categories, noting concern about a monopoly government service where fee payers have no ability to control costs and that it should not be assumed the impact of these changes would be minimal.

However, a submission by Restaurants Associations noted that the majority of their members who responded to these proposals did not support increases to visa fees and employer accreditation charges and that fee increases would act as a deterrent for prospective migrants to New Zealand, commenting:

The proposal to increase visa fees and employer accreditation...will intensify and increase pressure on an already challenging recruitment market for the hospitality industry.

Improving border security

Some submitters were concerned about the lack of cost benefits analysis of a stronger border and compliance regime or what constitutes an acceptable level of risk. There was some agreement with MBIE that the proposed levy fee increase would have a marginal impact on visa application numbers and migration patterns, but there was also some concern:

Insufficient research has been undertaken into potential negative impacts of the increase in fees and levies...industry response to fee increases in other countries, such as Australia, has suggested any increase could impact on the ability to fill skill shortages.

Recovering the fee memorandum and account deficit

Submitters expressed serious concern about the account deficit, calling for improved fiscal and operational management at INZ. BusinessNZ suggested MBIE reconsider the effectiveness of its forecasting and resource models. TIA questioned whether the deficit could be eliminated within proposed five year period. Hospitality NZ noted that:

Costs should not be permitted to spiral...and left to climb to a \$50m deficit by the end of 2018 under the assumption that those costs can just be passed on.

Concern about over-accumulation also drew comment from a number of submitters.

Border Clearance Levy

The consensus among submitters was that INZ border activities should continue to be Crown funded, with some support for a higher percentage of Crown funding than under current arrangements. Submitters contended that all New Zealanders benefit from a strong tourism sector and immigration:

New Zealand residents...benefit from immigration as a public service via the prevention of trafficking, protection of migrants rights, and allowing the country to meet its global responsibilities, and thus it follows that costs should be partially absorbed by NZ taxpayers.

A number of submitters commented that the proposed Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) was a better vehicle for funding border activities, and as the ETA could lead to reduced immigration border processing costs, its impact should be determined before introducing any new immigration levy.

Summary of Submissions

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
Impacts	1.1 Timely processing and approval of work visas is an area of concern for tourism industry.	TIA	MBIE acknowledges the concerns and is interested in exploring further opportunities for improvements, including the current INZ transformation programme which should deliver further efficiency gains.	Monitoring ongoing improvements at INZ which will feed into the next review
	1.2 Employers need to be able to easily access migrant staff where there are no suitable New Zealanders	TIA	This is out of the scope of this fees and levies review	There are opportunities for further engagement on other areas of immigration policy
	1.3 Forecast annual decline in work visas is not in line with actual anticipated demand.	TIA, BusinessNZ	There are inevitable uncertainties around forecasting, including broader context. MBIE has carried out sensitivity testing and determined a conservative approach is warranted at this point to ensure the balancing of the memorandum account.	Volume forecast will be revised for the next fees and levies review, planned for 2021.
	1.4 Return Restaurant/Bar Manager positions to ISSL	Hospitality NZ	This is out of the scope of this fees and levies review	There are opportunities for further engagement on other areas of immigration policy

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	1.5 Place greater rules and scrutiny on immigration advisers, particularly those advising migrants to NZ	Hospitality NZ	The proposed increase will fund the strengthening of the Immigration Advisers Authority (IAA), which will allow for better regulation of the immigration advisers	We will suggest Hospitality NZ should approach the IAA on its concerns as issues arise
	1.6 Immigration system should be timely, efficient and more employer friendly.	Hospitality NZ, TIA	MBIE acknowledges the concerns and notes INZ is progressing its transformation programme. This should lead to more efficiency gains.	Monitoring ongoing improvements at INZ which will feed into the next review
	1.7 Applications for LSSL, ISSL and ES should be made easier	Hospitality NZ	This is a different issue than the fees and levies review	There are opportunities for further engagement on other areas of immigration policy
	1.8 Increase assistance and reduce costs for small to medium seeking suitable staff, whether or not those staff are NZ citizens	Hospitality NZ	The case for a labour market test that safeguards the interests of New Zealanders is well established. There does not appear to be a strong case for public subsidy in recruiting foreign workers.	No action.
	1.9 Lower the cost of work visas for LSSL	Hospitality NZ	Work visa costs are set at a cost recovery basis. MBIE is interested in exploring opportunities for further improvements such as the current INZ transformation programme.	No action

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	1.10 Importance of visa costs and other fees and levies being seen as reasonable, are cost-recovery only and positive in relation to our major competitors.	English NZ, BusinessNZ	New Zealand is unique in using cost recovery as a basis for setting visa fees and levies, which will remain competitive in relation to comparable jurisdictions which do not operate on the same basis	Future public engagement on fees and levies reviews will help publicise the cost recovery basis of fees and levies and inform public scrutiny
	1.11 Changes will be a deterrent for prospective migrant workers coming to NZ	Restaurant Associations	Immigration fees and levies are a small portion of total costs migrants face to visit, study, work and live in New Zealand, and the total benefits involved. MBIE does not agree that the changes proposed here will discourage migration. We are nonetheless interested in better understanding incentives to migrate.	No action
	1.12 Fees should be reviewed once efficiencies and improvement in processing system is complete.	Restaurant Associations, BusinessNZ	Regular reviews are planned with a three year cycle. This will allow efficiencies and improvements be monitored.	No action (future reviews are already planned)

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
Rebalancing	2.1 Some fee and levy increases, significant in percentage-terms may be less impactful in actual increases. However it should not be taken for granted that impact will be minimal.	TIA	Immigration fees and levies are a small portion of total costs migrants face to visit, study, work and live in New Zealand, and the total benefits involved. MBIE does not agree that the changes proposed here will discourage migration. However we will monitor the trends to see if any negative effect does emerge and to better understand the wider incentives to migrate.	Continued monitoring and building a strong evidence base.
	2.2 Support not decreasing some fees (e.g. group visas and student visas) as there is no evidence that visitors object to paying them; this will assist with any fluctuations in other visa categories over time.	Hospitality NZ	New Zealand does not operate a willingness to pay model. The decision not to decrease some visa costs reflects operational feedback to activities underlying the financial data.	No action
	2.3 Any extreme fee increases – particularly those proposed for work visas – may reduce the number of applicants.	Hospitality NZ	MBIE does not agree that the increase is extreme in absolute terms. However we will monitor the trends to see if any negative effect does emerge and to better understand the wider incentives to migrate.	Continued monitoring and building a strong evidence base.

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	2.4 Given visa volumes in any category fluctuate regularly, fee changes should be distributed across all categories.	Hospitality NZ	It is appropriate that some costs, such as those driven by more verification required for work visa, should not be distributed across categories, while others such as the need to rebalance the memorandum account is apportioned more evenly.	We do not recommend a flat distribution of costs.
	2.5 Recommend government ask Productivity Commission to consider use of levies and means to improve how they are applied.	BusinessNZ	There are existing mechanisms in place to ensure public accountability for levy expenditure, including parliamentary scrutiny through the Appropriation process.	We do not recommend an investigation by the Productivity Commission at this stage
	2.6 Recommend that all future policy changes to visas settings should contain a thorough and independent cost/benefit analysis, including investigating proposed net benefits of changes to visa compliance and regulatory regime.	BusinessNZ	MBIE does not believe that there is a good case for investing in an independent mechanisms at this juncture. However, this may be a future option.	No action

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
Improving border security and regulation of immigration advisers	3.1 We are concerned that there is little, if any, analysis as to the costs and benefits of a stronger border and compliance regime or of what constitutes an acceptable level of risk.	BusinessNZ	MBIE believes that current level of analysis is appropriate given the risks and contexts. Further investigation will be carried out when the work programme allows.	No action
	3.2 The costs associated with improved border security should be funded by general taxation given the public benefit associated with these activities.	BusinessNZ, BARNZ, TIA, Emirates	The Crown already funds part of the costs. As migration gives rise to risks in the first place, the costs should not fall entirely or largely on New Zealanders	No action
	3.3 The cost of improving the regulation of immigration advisers should fall on immigration advisers themselves, subject to their general consent. Immigration advisers paying for this service need to be assured the charges set are not excessive in relation to costs incurred and take proper account of efficiency and equity considerations.	BusinessNZ	The regulatory activities of the IAA ultimately benefits migrants. It is important that the public and migrants can be assured of the quality of immigration advice by an independent regulator.	No action
	3.4 If the INZ Border Operations team is to be increased to monitor high-risk routes, it is important that training reiterates the fact not all travellers through those routes are necessarily “high-risk”.	EnglishNZ	MBIE does not consider all travellers through the high risk route are high risks themselves. However it does mean that all travellers need to be screened to rule them out.	INZ will continue to message consistently the need to screen all travellers on high risk routes

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
Response to demand pressures	4.1 We note that a change in government policy – such as the increased labour market testing now required for work visas – can add significantly to the processing cost, at no fault of the applicant. Consistency in policy and its implementation is highly desirable.	TIA	Policies such as increased labour market testing ensures immigration delivers benefits to New Zealanders and that it has a social license to operate. It is fair that migrants should bear the costs of maintaining a sustainable immigration system.	No action
Recovering the fee memorandum and account deficit	5.1 MBIE should absorb the deficit and not proceed with its proposal to charge future users for past visa applicant costs.	BusinessNZ	Given that the deficit arises from migration, it is unfair that New Zealanders should pay for the costs. The current legislation explicitly allows cross subsidisation between migrants.	No action
	5.2 Undertake a full review of forecasting methodology and Resource Model.	BusinessNZ	The resourcing model was designed for different purposes and there are room for improvements when using it to support fees and levies settings.	MBIE and INZ will continue to work on the resourcing model to better support for future fees and levies reviews
	5.3 Consideration to be given to the pros and cons of annual reviews to minimise the percentage impact of a three year cycle	BusinessNZ	The costs of annual review, both in the exercise itself and the consequent burden of regulatory change and implementation outweigh the benefits at the moment. There are other ways to manage the fluctuations from year to year in migrant patterns, such as better modelling, that should be considered.	MBIE and INZ will consider better modelling of migration patterns to manage fluctuations.

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	5.4 Improve fiscal and operational management so that any future fee reviews are kept to a minimum, the 5-year fiscal and operational goals are achieved, and any over-accumulations in out-years are returned to visitors and workers via reduced fees.	TIA	It is intended that fees and levies should be regularly reviewed to ensure that they remain fit for purpose. MBIE and INZ are committed to monitor efficiency gains from operational improvements and return the benefits to migrants and New Zealanders.	MBIE and INZ will monitor operational improvements which will inform the next fees and levies review.
	5.5 Costs should not be permitted to spiral into a 2016/2017 deficit of \$11.3m and left to climb to a \$50m deficit by the end of 2018 under the assumption that those costs can just be passed on.	Hospitality NZ, BusinessNZ	MBIE agrees that memorandum account deficit should be managed promptly.	Regular reviews of fees and levies as planned will allow deficits to be managed in a more timely manner.
	5.6 There needs to be much more accountability, care, assessment, careful cost/benefit analysis, and regard from MBIE to streamline costs and ensure efficiencies... need to be able to justify and account for all spending, over-spending, and ensure costs are minimised.	Hospitality NZ	MBIE and INZ are committed to good regulatory practice and public accountability when setting cost recovery mechanisms. Fees and levies reviews will provide an opportunity to scrutinise these issues regularly in addition to existing safeguards such as the parliamentary appropriation process.	Public consultation should be continued for future fees and levies reviews.

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	5.7 We hold concerns that the \$50m deficit may not be eliminated by 2021/22, or that over-accumulation occurs.	TIA	There is a risk that forecast may deviate from actual patterns. Regular reviews will minimise the impacts of such risks.	MBIE and INZ are committed to monitor memorandum account movements and will reconsider this issue at the next fees and levies review if necessary.
Other matters	6.1 There should be a proper review of all Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) codes. Current ANZSCO codes are not fit-for-purpose for the hospitality and tourism industry.	HospitalityNZ	This is out of the scope of this fees and levies review	We suggest HospitalityNZ to contact Standards NZ with regard to the current codes.
Employer accreditation fee	7.1 Further savings could be made working more closely with Association's through a pre-approved accreditation platform, which the Restaurant Association is currently finalising. We would be interested in speaking further with MBIE about our proposed plans for the accreditation platform.	Restaurant Associations	MBIE welcomes the contribution of Restaurants Associations.	MBIE will engage with Restaurant Associations on the proposed plan for an accreditation platform
	7.2 The 20% increase in the fee for employer accreditation is unlikely to create a barrier for businesses and should proceed. But there is a need to ensure fees imposed on employers are reasonable and reflect an appropriate level of risk.	BusinessNZ	MBIE agrees with BusinessNZ's views	No action

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	7.3 As a result of this review, further streamlining could be achieved which may lead to reduced processing costs associated with work visas and EAP.	BusinessNZ	INZ is currently working on a number of operational improvements. Expected efficiency gains are factored into this review and will be monitored.	MBIE and INZ will monitor the outcomes of the efficiency measures.

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
Recovery of INZ border costs from travellers	<p>7.4 There is a strong public good element to INZ border clearance services, and the Crown contribution should not decrease.</p> <p>All New Zealanders (not just those who travel) benefit from an effective immigration system.</p>	TIA, BusinessNZ, Emirates, BARNZ	All travellers are screened for immigration risk, and facilitated, by INZ. MBIE considers it appropriate to fully recover these costs from users.	No action
	7.5 It would not be equitable to recover INZ border services from New Zealand travellers, as New Zealanders do not exacerbate immigration risk.	Emirates, TIA, BARNZ	All travellers are screened for immigration risk by INZ. It is true that once positively identified by INZ, New Zealanders do not pose immigration risk. MBIE considers it appropriate for New Zealanders to contribute to the costs of the services that identify them, and facilitates their travel.	An alternative BCL proposal should be identified that excludes INZ border services do not apply to New Zealanders. This proposal is likely to only include the costs of Advanced Passenger Processing, and would likely be a much smaller fee.
	7.6 If all immigration border costs are to be recovered from travellers, it would be preferable to recovery additional funding from visa-waiver travellers via the ETA.	BARNZ	<p>The ETA is targeted at a different group (visa waivers) and complements the levies charged on visa applicants.</p> <p>It is also currently targeting a different source of costs.</p> <p>Alignment between three funding mechanisms (ETA, levies, and Crown funding) is a key consideration when ETA is rolled out and for future fees and levies reviews.</p>	MBIE will consider alignment between ETA, levies and Crown funding as the new arrangements are put in place.

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	7.7 CLIA has previously made submissions to the government about the high rate of the Border Clearance Levy for cruise passengers, and our desire to achieve reductions (rather than increases) in the levy over time. We trust the additional information that would be available to INZ through the ETA process would negate any need for INZ to start to interact with cruise passengers in the future.	CLIA	Border agencies are identifying opportunities to better manage immigration risk from cruise passengers. MBIE agrees that the ETA, the costs of which will be recovered by an ETA fee, will be central. However, MBIE cannot rule out that other INZ services will be required in future (which could be recovered by an INZ BCL).	No action
	7.8 We expect ETA to generate efficiencies in border security for international visitors, including efficiencies for INZ. MBIE should wait to determine impact of ETA on immigration system costs before progressing any new immigration levy.	TIA, Emirates, BARNZ	MBIE agrees that the ETA is likely to lead to efficiencies for INZ at the border, and that now may not be the most opportune time to set up an INZ BCL.	Delay further consideration of the BCL
Challenges to implementation of proposed changes	8.1 The BCL was recently reviewed (July 2018) and tourism operators have built the revised rates into future pricing, often three-plus years in advance. The new rates need to settle into pricing models rather than be increased.	TIA	MBIE agrees that any changes to the BCL should allow enough time for carriers to adjust pricing models.	No action
	8.2 An addition of a further \$3 onto airline tickets in addition to all other changes being introduced does create a further barrier and disincentive to tourists coming to NZ.	BARNZ	MBIE considers that an increase on the BCL by up to \$3 is unlikely to have a significant impact on tourist demand.	No action

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	<p>7.7 If MBIE is minded to progress this proposal, then at a minimum, levy and fees should reflect the costs of services received, and include specific accountability and performance arrangements, including consultation with affected parties, public reporting against performance benchmarks, and annual levy reviews. Any additional levy powers must be constrained and time bound.</p>	BusinessNZ	<p>MBIE would likely seek to align as much as possible with MPI and Customs reporting, consultation and review cycles and mechanisms.</p>	No action
<p>Cumulative impacts</p>	<p>9.1 Need to consider any increased fees alongside existing costs and other planned increases eg. aviation security and biosecurity charges are likely to increase in the foreseeable future. We encourage the government to monitor increases and be mindful of tourists' contribution to NZ economy.</p> <p>Increased fees should be used to improve visitor experience, not to offset INZ service inefficiencies.</p>	TIA, BARNZ, English NZ	<p>MBIE is interested in the cumulative policy impact which is a key reason to have a coordinated consultation process for immigration fees and levies, ETA and IVL.</p> <p>MBIE agrees that fees and levies should drive an efficient immigration process and is keen to explore opportunities for further savings</p>	No action

Issue	Summary of comments	Submitter(s)	MBIE response	Recommended action
	<p>9.2 Further analysis on how New Zealand compares to other countries in regards to levies and taxes collected at the border is required. While New Zealand is perceived as an expensive destination due to its distance from other destinations, previous work by central government (during consultation on the Border Clearance Levy) shows that New Zealand's border charges are relatively low in comparison to other countries. Research into the perceptions of costs of travelling to New Zealand amongst various types of visitors would also help in determining potential impacts on visitors.</p>	<p>Canterbury Mayoral Forum</p>	<p>MBIE is interested in better understanding migration patterns as work programmes allows.</p>	<p>No action</p>

Annex Three: Proposed Immigration Fees and Levies Levels

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
<i>Residence class visa</i>							
Residence class visa application—Skilled Migrant Category	1,890	1,620	2,505	1,880	1,610	2,480	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category)	4,280	4,165	4,165	4,240	4,130	4,130	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Investor (Investor 2 Category)	4,280	4,165	4,165	4,240	4,130	4,130	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Entrepreneur Residence Category	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,310	3,310	3,310	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Family Category	970	970	1,670	1,070	1,070	1,840	10% increase for all other visa categories
Residence class visa application—Samoan Quota scheme	740	720	-	820	800	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Residence class visa application—Pacific Access Category	805	785	-	890	870	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Residence class visa application—Refugee Family Support Category	605	595	835	670	660	920	10% increase for all other visa categories
Residence class visa application—Employees of Relocating Businesses Category	970	970	1,670	970	970	1660	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Residence from Work Category	970	-	-	970	n/a	n/a	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Residence class visa application—Parent Retirement Category	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,310	3,310	3,310	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
Residence class visa application—any other residence category	970	970	1,670	1,070	1,070	1,840	10% increase for all other visa categories
Permanent resident visa application by person holding resident visa	190	190	190	210	210	210	10% increase for all other visa categories
Permanent resident visa application by person who previously held resident visa	190	190	190	210	210	210	10% increase for all other visa categories
Resident visa application by person who previously held resident visa	190	190	190	210	210	210	10% increase for all other visa categories
Variation of travel conditions of visa by person holding resident visa	190	190	190	210	210	210	10% increase for all other visa categories
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Skilled Migrant Category (physical)	680	680	680	680	680	680	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Skilled Migrant Category (electronic)	530	530	530	583	583	583	10% increase for all other visa categories
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Investor 2 Category	620	620	620	620	620	620	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Parent Category (physical) (currently closed)	440	440	440	490	490	490	10% increase for all other visa categories
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Parent Category (electronic) (currently closed)	345	345	345	380	380	380	10% increase for all other visa categories
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Pacific Access Category (first year of notification)	75	75	75	85	85	85	10% increase for all other visa categories
Notification of expression of interest in applying for residence class visa—Pacific Access Category (subsequent year of notification)	30	30	30	35	35	35	10% increase for all other visa categories

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
Temporary visa application—visitor visa	170	135	170	190	150	190	10% increase for all other visa categories
Temporary visa application—visitor visa (online)	151	116	151	190	150	190	Removal of online discount – applies hard-copy rate
Temporary visa application—student visa	260	205	280	250	200	270	6.5% reduction for student visa categories
Temporary visa application—student visa (online)	233	178	253	250	200	270	Removal of online discount – applies hard-copy rate
Temporary entry class visa application—limited visa: limited student visa	260	205	280	250	200	270	6.5% reduction for student visa categories
Temporary entry class visa application—limited visa: limited visa for recognised seasonal employer	280	240	280	310	270	310	10% increase for all other visa categories
Temporary entry class visa application—limited visa: any other category	170	135	170	190	150	190	10% increase for all other visa categories
Temporary visa application—student visa made online by education provider	100	-	-	110	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Temporary visa application—group visitor visa per person (made offshore only): approved destination status (China)	n/a	n/a	50	n/a	n/a	30	45% reduction for group visitor visa category
Temporary visa application—group visitor visa per person (made offshore only): other	85	85	85	50	50	50	45% reduction for group visitor visa category
Temporary visa application— Retirement Category visitor visa	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,310	3,310	3,310	1% overall decrease for Business Residence visas
Temporary visa application—work visa under Silver Fern Job Search immigration instructions	260	260	260	410	410	410	54% increase for work visa categories
Temporary visa application—work visa under working holidaymaker extension	170	-	170	187	n/a	187	Exempt/10% increase for all other visa categories

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
Temporary visa application—work visa under Work Partnership/Work to Residence (Talent (Arts, Culture, and Sports), Talent (Employer Accreditation), or Talent (Long-term Skills Shortage List))	375	375	375	580	580	580	54% increase for work visa categories
Temporary visa application—work visa under Work Partnership/Work to Residence (Talent (Arts, Culture, and Sports), Talent (Employer Accreditation), or Talent (Long-term Skills Shortage List)) (online)	355	355	355	580	580	580	54% increase/Removal of online discount – applies hard-copy rate
Temporary visa application—work visa under any other category of immigration instruction	280	240	280	440	370	440	54% increase for work visa categories
Temporary visa application—work visa under any other category of immigration instruction (online)	260	220	260	440	370	440	54% increase/Removal of online discount – applies hard-copy rate
Temporary visa application—Entrepreneur Work Visa	3,340	2,820	3,340	3,680	3,110	3,680	10% increase for all other visa categories
Temporary visa application—work visa under working holiday scheme	170	-	170	187	n/a	187	Exempt/10% increase for all other visa categories
Application for reconsideration of decision to decline further temporary visa	195	-	-	220	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Transit visa application	145	145	145	160	160	160	10% increase for all other visa categories
Transit visa application—group Chinese nationals per person	85	-	85	95	n/a	95	10% increase for all other visa categories
Request for special direction	195	195	195	220	220	220	10% increase for all other visa categories
Residence class visa granted under section 61 of the Immigration Act	870	-	-	960	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
Temporary entry class visa granted under section 61 of the Immigration Act	365	-	-	410	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Application for variation of conditions imposed on any type of temporary entry class visa	170	170	170	190	190	190	10% increase for all other visa categories
Request under immigration instructions by employer for approval in principle to recruit overseas workers	400	-	-	440	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Labour hire company accreditation (Essential Skills Category immigration instructions)—first year of accreditation	1,775	-	-	1,960	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Labour hire company accreditation (Essential Skills Category immigration instructions)—subsequent year of accreditation	500	-	-	550	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Reconsideration of application from labour hire company for accreditation (Essential Skills Category immigration instructions)	195	-	-	220	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Request under immigration instructions by an employer for approval in principle to recruit overseas workers under foreign crew of fishing vessels instructions	5,115	-	-	5,630	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Request under immigration instructions for supplementary seasonal employment approval in principle	260	-	-	290	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Call-out fee where office is opened outside normal working hours in order to process immigration matter	290	290	290	320	320	320	10% increase for all other visa categories
Registration under Refugee Family Support Category	90	-	-	100	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Employer accreditation (under talent work immigration instructions)—initial accreditation	1,775	-	-	2,130	n/a	n/a	20% increase for Employer accreditation applications
Employer accreditation (under talent work immigration instructions)—subsequent accreditation	500	-	-	600	n/a	n/a	20% increase for employer accreditation applications

Fee (NZ\$)	Current fees			Proposed fees			Comment on change
	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	New Zealand	Pacific	Rest of World	
Reconsideration of application from employer for talent employer accreditation	195	-	-	240	n/a	n/a	20% increase for Employer accreditation applications
Entertainment industry accreditation (under specific purpose or events immigration instructions)—first year of accreditation	1,775	-	-	1,960	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Entertainment industry accreditation (under specific purpose or events immigration instructions)—subsequent year accreditation	500	-	-	550	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Recognised Seasonal Employer status	870	-	-	960	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Agreement to recruit under Recognised Seasonal Employer work immigration instructions	230	-	-	260	n/a	n/a	10% increase for all other visa categories
Confirmation of immigration status	110	110	110	130	130	130	10% increase for all other visa categories
Transfer fee where visa stamp or label transferred from one passport or certificate of identity to another	110	110	110	130	130	130	10% increase for all other visa categories
First endorsement of New Zealand citizenship in foreign passport	135	135	135	150	150	150	10% increase for all other visa categories
Second or subsequent endorsement of New Zealand citizenship in foreign passport	85	85	85	95	95	95	10% increase for all other visa categories

Proposed changes to individual immigration levies

Note: Proposed levies are rounded up to the nearest \$1 for first seven.

Proposed levies are rounded up to the nearest \$10 for remaining categories.

The figures assume that the increases proposed in this paper are agreed in full.

Category of applicant	Current Levy (NZD\$)	Proposed Levy (NZ\$)
Applicant for group visitor visa	10	15
Applicant for visitor visa: any other category	14	21
Applicant for student visa	17	25
Applicant for work visa	38	55
Applicant for limited visa: limited visa for recognised seasonal employer	10	15
Applicant for limited visa: limited student visa	17	25
Applicant for limited visa: any other category	14	21
Applicant for resident visa—Skilled Migrant Category	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category)	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Investor (Investor 2 Category)	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Entrepreneur Residence Category	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Residence from Work Category	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Employees of Relocating Business Category	580	830
Applicant for resident visa—Family Category	280	410
Applicant for resident visa—Pacific Access Category	280	410
Applicant for resident visa—Parent Retirement Category	280	410
Applicant for resident visa—Pitcairn Islanders	280	410
Applicant for permanent resident visa—Family Category	280	410
Applicant for permanent resident visa—Residence from Work Category	580	830