



AIDE MEMOIRE

STAPP Application Process for Urgent Support

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|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Date: | 12 June 2020 | Priority: | High |
| Security classification: | In Confidence | Tracking number: | 3713 19-20 |

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| Information for Minister(s) |
| Hon Kelvin Davis Minister of Tourism |

| | | | | |
|---|--|------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Contact for telephone discussion (if required) | | | | |
| Name | Position | Telephone | | 1st contact |
| Danielle McKenzie | Programme Director, Tourism | 04 896 5113 | s 9(2)(a) | ✓ |
| s 9(2)(a) | Policy Advisor, Tourism Systems and Insights | s 9(2)(a) | | |

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|---|
| The following departments/agencies have been consulted |
| |

Minister's office to complete:

Approved

Declined

Noted

Needs change

Seen

Overtaken by Events

See Minister's Notes

Withdrawn

Comments

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT



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Purpose

This aide memoire provides details of the Strategic Tourism Asset Protection Programme (STAPP) application process (also see briefing to Tourism Recovery Ministers Group 3660 19-20), notes that STAPP application forms invite applicants to express urgency of support, and confirms that no urgent applications have been received since formal applications for the programme opened on Thursday 4 June 2020.

Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme

STAPP process and timeline

- The following process and timeline for the STAPP was outlined in briefing 3660 19-20 and is to be considered by the Tourism Recovery Ministers Group (TRMG) at your next meeting on 18 June:

| Date | STAPP timeline |
|------------------------|--|
| Thursday 4 June | Applications open |
| Thursday 18 June | Applications close |
| Friday 26 June | Preliminary eligibility assessment sent to other agencies for feedback |
| Tuesday 30 June | Eligibility assessment paper sent to TRMG for approval |
| Thursday 2 July | TRMG meeting: confirm eligible/non eligible applications |
| Tuesday 7 July | Recommendation paper post full assessment of approved eligible assets sent to TRMG |
| Thursday 9 July | TRMG meeting: consider funding applications |
| Friday 10 July | MBIE contact applicants to confirm outcome |
| 13-17 July | Tentative Announcement |

Process for urgent applications in need of immediate support

- MBIE officials are reviewing applications to determine eligibility upon submission.
- While reviewing eligibility, MBIE officials are also reviewing the urgency of the application to identify if any eligible strategic tourism assets are in immediate need of support. The application form invites applicants to express urgency.

- If identified, a full assessment of the urgent eligible application will be delivered to the TRMG as soon as possible. This would occur outside of the noted process and timeline above.

Update on STAPP applications to date

- As of 11 June 2020, there have been 33 STAPP applications received.
- MBIE officials have not identified any of the applications to be in urgent need of support. This includes a review of application forms and phone calls with 5 businesses to better establish urgency. These businesses noted that the wage subsidy and subsequent extension have considerably eased financial pressure and secured key jobs for the immediate future.
- Discover Waitomo and Whale Watch Kaikōura have already been approved for support and announced publically.
- AJ Hackett Bungy NZ has been agreed and the contract has been agreed but yet to be signed. This is to be publically announced.

Associated risks with application assessment outside of the set process and timeline

- MBIE officials recommend that urgent assessment of proposals outside of the current round only be considered when absolutely necessary and critical to the asset's ongoing viability.
- The STAPP application round is designed to move at pace and get decisions to applicants as soon as possible.
- The extension of the wage subsidy also minimises the urgency of assessment outside of the current round.
- The design of the STAPP application round process also enables the evaluation of eligible applications to be made collectively so that the scale of support and regional distribution of strategic assets are considered and will enable us to prioritise investments side by side. This will in turn allow for Ministers to make best use of the tourism recovery fund and ensure effective impact on the wider the tourism system.



Danielle McKenzie
Programme Director, Tourism
Labour Science and Enterprise, MBIE

12 / 6 / 2020