

# TOURISM RECOVERY MINISTERS GROUP

Thursday, 9 July 2020, 3pm-4.30pm  
Weekly Meeting, 7.2 Executive Wing

## AGENDA

<b>Attendees</b>	Hon Kelvin Davis (Minister of Tourism) <b>Chair</b> Hon Grant Robertson (Minister of Finance) Hon Nanaia Mahuta (Minister of Maori Development) Hon Eugenie Sage (Minister of Conservation) Fletcher Tabuteau (Under Secretary Regional Economic Development)
<b>Apologies</b>	-
<b>Officials</b>	Paul Stocks (MBIE LSE DCE), Iain Cossar (MBIE Tourism GM), Martin Cavanagh (MBIE), Danielle McKenzie (MBIE), Andrew Lim (MBIE), Stephen England-Hall (TNZ, CE), Billie Moore (TNZ GM), Bryan Dunne (DPMC), Bruce Parkes (DOC), Laura White (DOC), Pania Tyson-Nathan (NZMT)

Item	Description	Actions	Papers
1	<b>Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme - Decisions</b>	<b>Agree</b> successful STAPP applications for funding	0029 20-21 STAPP Decisions
2	<b>STAPP – Funding Agreement Conditions</b>  (If meeting time allows otherwise circulate for consideration after the meeting)	<b>Agree</b> that funding agreement conditions will be structured in relation to the 4 capitals (with 3-4 indicators per capital).	3895 19-20 STAPP Funding agreement conditions
3	<b>Any other business</b>		

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

<b>16 July TRM Meeting 12-12.45pm</b>	<b>23 July TRM Meeting</b>	<b>30 July TRM Meeting 5.15-5.45pm</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taskforce Chairs update</li> <li>Taskforce Policy priorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ITO protection Fund (NB: tentative STAPP announcements this week)</li> </ul>	

#### STAPP decisions

Ministers noted the work of officials to assess and summarise the applications in a short timeframe. Ministers noted that the application process followed was high-trust and truncated due to the timeframe imposed by TRM s 9(2)(g)(i). This created limitations in the quality of the applications and a variability in the information provided by applicants.

Ministers noted that there had been a change to the operating environment for tourism businesses in the time since the funding was announced and the application process was completed. This included delays to the proposed Trans-Tasman bubble, extending the Wage Subsidy and an increase in domestic tourism in many parts of the country.

Ministers noted that because of these changes, it is difficult to assess what qualifies as a 'strategic tourism asset' against other tourism assets.

Ministers noted that a significant number of the tourism assets registered for STAPP were owned by a small number of large tourism companies.

Ministers noted that applicants had declared they had exhausted alternative sources of funding but that officials were unable to independently determine that this was the case in the time available. Ministers noted that officials could not confirm that the underlying asset – as opposed to the firm or current owner – would be lost to the tourism system in the absence of Crown intervention. Ministers noted considerable industry feedback that the STAPP was not perceived to be an appropriate vehicle for interventions in the tourism system. Ministers agreed to cease approval of any further STAPP funding at this time. Ministers asked officials to develop options for STAPP funding or other support for tourism businesses through the Tourism Recovery Package. Options could include funding a smaller number of significant assets, or announcing low or no regrets investments that stimulate demand or help lift longer term productivity.

s 9(2)(g)(i)

**Action:** MBIE to develop options for STAPP funding or other support for tourism businesses through the Tourism Recovery Package.

#### **Oral item – Tourism Futures Taskforce membership**

Ministers noted that s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(a) are unable to join the Taskforce due to existing commitments. Ministers considered a number of names, Sue Suckling and s 9(2)(a) will be approached by the co-Chairs of the Taskforce about possibly joining.

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