



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Michael Wood	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Amendments to immigration regulations to give effect to RCNZ decisions to reopen work visas	Date to be published	25 July 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
June 2022	Amendments to immigration regulations to give effect to RCNZ decisions to reopen work visas	Office of the Minister of Immigration
8 June 2022	Reopening Work Visas: Amendments to Immigration Regulations DEV-22-MIN-0130 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's and MFAT'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 Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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Reopening Work Visas: Amendments to Immigration Regulations

Portfolio **Immigration**

On 8 June 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that on 19 April 2022, Cabinet decided to bring forward Step 5 of *Reconnecting New Zealanders*, including:
 - 1.1 reopening all work visas from Step 4 on 4 July 2022, alongside the new Accredited Employer Work Visa;
 - 1.2 reopening all other visas from 31 July 2022, including visitor and student visas;

[CAB-22-MIN-0139]
- 2 **noted** that some additional changes to the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 are needed to give full effect to the decision in paragraph 1.1 above;
- 3 **agreed** to reopen visa applications from 4 July 2022 for people applying for a temporary entry class visa as the partner or dependent child of a temporary work visa applicant (including Accredited Employer Work Visa and other work visa categories that open on 4 July 2022);
- 4 **noted** that:
 - 4.1 partners and dependent children will need to meet standard relationship criteria in order to be eligible for a partnership or dependent child visa;
 - 4.2 those who do not meet eligibility will need to wait until Visitor Visa processing reopens from 31 July 2022 (this includes where partners do not meet the living together requirement);
- 5 **agreed** to amend the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 to give effect to the above paragraphs;
- 6 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration will seek to waive the 28-day rule for the regulation changes associated with the above paragraphs, as they will only confer benefits on the regulated parties;
- 7 **invited** the Minister of Immigration to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above paragraphs;

8 **authorised** the Minister of Immigration to make any minor technical amendments to give effect to the agreed policy.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Hon Phil Twyford
Rino Tirikatene, MP
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV