



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Andrew Little	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Changes to the immigration Green List for the health sector	Date to be published	7 July 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
April 2023	Changes to the immigration Green List for the health sector	Office of the Minister of Immigration
5 April 2023	Changes to the immigration Green List for the health sector: DEV-23-MIN-0048 Minute	Cabinet Office
22 February 2023	Briefing: 2223-2503 Changes to the immigration Green List for the health sector	MBIE and Ministry of Health

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 and privacy of natural persons.



Cabinet Economic Development 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.

Changes to the Immigration Green List for the Health Sector

Portfolio **Immigration**

On 5 April 2023, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the immigration Green List currently offers streamlined residence pathways to several health roles, including medical practitioners, registered nurses, and midwives;
- 2 **noted** that in December 2022, Cabinet directed health and immigration officials to report back in early 2023 with criteria and a list of further health occupations for inclusion on the Green List, with a median wage threshold [CAB-22-MIN-0569];
- 3 **noted** that health officials have refined the original criteria proposed to Cabinet to better uphold Cabinet's intent, in close consultation with operational agencies;
- 4 **agreed** that clinical roles within immigration settings explicitly refer to medical practitioners, enrolled nurses, all registered nurses and nurse practitioners, midwives, dentists, and dental specialists;
- 5 **agreed** to the criteria for additions to the Green List:
 - 5.1 the primary applicant must hold one of the below two requirements:
 - 5.1.1 is regulated under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the HPCA Act) or the Social Workers Registration Act 2003; or
 - 5.1.2 is self-regulated by a professional body; and
 - 5.2 the primary applicant's profession is defined by health agencies as being critical to the delivery of health services in New Zealand;

6 **agreed** to the below occupations that health officials propose adding to the Green List based on the criteria at paragraph 5, noting that those indicated in bold are already on the straight to residence path, and those italicised are already on the work to residence path:

Addiction practitioner/alcohol & drug clinician	Genetic counsellor	Orthotist/prosthetist
<i>Anaesthetic technician</i>	<i>Medical imaging technologist</i>	Osteopath
<i>Audiologist</i>	Medical laboratory pre-analytical technician	Paramedic/emergency medical technician
Audiometrist	Medical laboratory scientist	Perfusionist (cardiac)
Chiropractor	<i>Medical laboratory technician</i>	Pharmacist
Clinical dental technician	Medical physicist	Physiotherapist
Clinical physiologists (sleep, renal, exercise, respiratory, neurology, and cardiac)	Medical resonance imaging technologist	Play therapist (hospital)
Counsellor	Nuclear medicine technologist	<i>Podiatrist</i>
Dental technician	<i>Occupational therapist</i>	Psychologist
Dental therapist	Optometrist	Psychotherapist
Dietician	Oral health therapist	<i>Radiation therapist</i>
Dispensing optician	Orthoptist	Social worker
Drug and alcohol counsellor	Orthotic and prosthetic technician	<i>Sonographer</i>
		Speech language therapist
		Sterile processing technician

7 **agreed** that the health occupations outlined in paragraphs 4 and 6 (including those currently on the Green List) will be on the straight to residence pathway of the Green List;

8 **noted** that some migrants may not be able to access residence immediately from offshore, where they need to complete registration in New Zealand;

9 **noted** that while the decisions in the submission under DEV-23-SUB-0048 will make immigration settings as facilitative as reasonably possible for the health sector, other factors like pay and conditions, agility of recruitment networks, and time taken for relocation will influence the pace and volume at which offshore health workers come to work in New Zealand;

10 **agreed** to expand the scope of the transport sector agreement to include ship's masters (skippers) and deck hands;

11 **agreed** to review the transport sector agreement after 12 months;

12 **noted** that these decisions will be implemented in May 2023.

Jenny Vickers
Committee Secretary

Attendance: (see over)

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon David Parker
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Hon Ginny Andersen
Hon Dr Duncan Webb
Hon Rino Tirikatene
Hon Dr Deborah Russell
Jo Luxton MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for DEV