



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Carmel Sepuloni	Portfolio	ACC
Title of Cabinet paper	Finalising Changes to ACC's Accredited Employers Programme	Date to be published	7 August 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
June 2023	Finalising Changes to ACC's Accredited Employers Programme	Office of the Minister for ACC
28 June 2023	Finalising Changes to ACC's Accredited Employers Programme SWC-23-MIN-0082 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO [select one]

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Cabinet Social Wellbeing 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.

Finalising Changes to ACC's Accredited Employers Programme

Portfolio **ACC**

On 28 June 2023, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC):

- 1 **noted** that in September 2022, SWC agreed to release a public consultation document proposing a package of four changes to modernise and strengthen the Accredited Employers Programme and invited the Minister for ACC to report back in early 2023 with final recommendations [SWC-22-MIN-00165];
- 2 **noted** that most submitters supported Proposals 2 & 3 to strengthen the assessment of claims and injury management and implement a Performance Monitoring Model given the increased focus on outcomes and better recognition of worker experience, although there was concern about lack of detail and increased compliance costs;
- 3 **noted** that Proposal 4 for new pricing options for the Partnership Discount Plan attracted little comment, with those submitting largely not seeing any advantages, but the proposal will impact only those adopting it;
- 4 **agreed** that Proposals 2, 3 and 4 be progressed as consulted, namely:
 - 4.1 Strengthen the assessment of claims and injury management;
 - 4.2 Implement a Performance Monitoring Model;
 - 4.3 Introduce additional pricing options for Accredited Employers on the Partnership Discount Plan;
- 5 **noted** that Proposal 1 to implement external health and safety assessment using ISO 45001 or SafePlus was largely not supported because the high cost often could not be justified and the SafePlus assessment was not considered suitable, although those already ISO 45001 certified supported not also needing an ACC health and safety audit;
- 6 **agreed** that Proposal 1 be changed to allow Accredited Employers to be subject to an updated ACC health and safety audit or become ISO 45001 certified;
- 7 **invited** the Minister for ACC to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above decisions;

- 8 **authorised** the Minister for ACC to make decisions on any issues which arise during the drafting process, consistent with the above decisions;
- 9 **noted** that the amended Framework is expected to come into force from 1 April 2025.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Jan Tinetti
Hon Kiri Allan
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Hon Barbara Edmonds
Hon Willow-Jean Prime
Hon Rino Tirkatene

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for SWC