



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Andrew Bayly	Portfolio	Small Business and Manufacturing; Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Title of Cabinet paper	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Andrew Bayly – March 2024	Date to be published	23 May 2024

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
May 2024	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Andrew Bayly – March 2024	Office of the Minister for Small Business and Manufacturing and Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
13 May 2024	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Andrew Bayly – March 2024 CAB-24-MIN-0165 Minute	Cabinet Office

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 reason of Confidential advice to Government.

In Confidence

Office of the Minister for Small Business and Manufacturing and Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Minister Bayly

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Canberra, Wollongong, and Sydney, Australia from 25 March to 28 March 2024.

Report

1. I undertook a short working visit to Canberra for discussions with my Ministerial counterparts, they were as follows:
 - 1.1. Assistant Minister for Manufacturing and Assistant Minister for Trade, Hon Tim Ayres
 - 1.2. Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Hon Dr Andrew Leigh
 - 1.3. Minister for Small Business, Hon Julie Collins.

Meeting with two Ministers were not able to take place due to scheduling changes, but have subsequently been held by Teams, most recently on 1 May. The Ministers met by Teams were:

 - 1.4. Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services, Hon Stephen Jones
 - 1.5. Minister for Industry and Science, Hon Ed Husic.
2. I also had discussions with officials, agencies, and organisations responsible for commerce, manufacturing, and small business to explore portfolio and partnership opportunities such as
 - 2.1. Parliamentary Friends of Manufacturing
 - 2.2. Australian Small Business and Family Ombudsman
 - 2.3. Chair of the House Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Resources
 - 2.4. Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)
 - 2.5. Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

3. In late 2023 the Prime Minister wrote to Prime Minister Albanese signalling that New Zealand is prioritising regulatory alignment to support the Single Economic Market (SEM). I have responsibility for aspects of the SME, including the standards and conformance system. There is also significant alignment between the New Zealand and Australian competition and fair trading laws, which I also have responsibility for.
4. A shared commitment to ensure that our regulatory settings are aligned and foster trade within the SEM was a consistent theme across the meetings with my Ministerial counterparts and their agencies. I was also able to gain valuable insights into how Australia is approaching scams prevention, and it's implementation of the Consumer Data Right.
5. The National-New Zealand First coalition includes an agreement to "improve competitiveness and address the lack of a third entrant to remove the market power of the duopoly" that currently exists in New Zealand's grocery sector. I discussed competition in the grocery sector with Minister Leigh and the ACCC. Australia is currently reviewing their Food and Grocery Supply Code, which I will monitor and ensure the New Zealand Supply Code aligns as closely as possible.
6. In Sydney I visited the University of New South Wales Randwick campus to see firsthand programmes between the University and industry in the area of applied automation and Australian Composites Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre, an AUD250 million funded industry-led consortia.
7. I also travelled to Wollongong, visiting the University of Wollongong to visit the Facility for Intelligent Fabrication, a leading centre that focusses on the future of materials utilising innovative processes, technologies and advanced fabrication techniques.
8. I toured the manufacturing business Mint Innovation in Sydney. Mint Innovation, established in 2016 is a leading cleantech company specialising in the recovery of valuable metals from electronic waste (e-waste) using a unique, scaled biological process. Headquartered in New Zealand, Mint Innovation is an example of a New Zealand manufacturing business that has successfully invested in Australia for scaling purposes.
9. As follow up to my travel I have instructed officials to progress the following key actions:

Confidential advice to Government



- 9.3. further engage with Australia on their approach to preventing scams, and implementation of the Consumer Data Right, including its roll out to the electricity sector
- 9.4. identify opportunities for collaboration such that New Zealand manufacturing businesses can access facilities in advanced manufacturing in Australia.

Proactive release

10. I intend to proactively release the paper, subject to redactions as appropriate and consistent with the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Andrew Bayly
Minister for Small Business and Manufacturing
Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs