



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Erica Stanford	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Adding Primary School Teachers to the Green List Straight to Residence Pathway	Date to be published	7 April 2025

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
16 January 2025	Adding Primary School Teachers to the Green List Straight to Residence Pathway	Office of the Minister of Immigration
19 February 2025	ECO-25-MIN-0009 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO (please select)

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Some information has been withheld for the reasons of privacy of natural persons.



Cabinet Economic Policy 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.

Adding Primary School Teachers to the Green List Straight to Residence Pathway

Portfolio Immigration

On 19 February 2025, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee:

- 1 **noted** that shortages in primary school teachers have been a growing challenge for the New Zealand education workforce;
- 2 **noted** that primary school teachers are currently on the Work to Residence pathway under the Green List;
- 3 **noted** that moving specified primary school teacher roles to the Straight to Residence Pathway under the Green List is intended to:
 - 3.1 provide some attraction benefits by using the Straight to Residence pathway of the Green List, which is considered a desirable attraction tool in a globally competitive market;
 - 3.2 support existing overseas recruitment initiatives being led by the Ministry of Education;
 - 3.3 provide increased certainty and a more streamlined residency application process for both applicants and Immigration New Zealand by enabling overseas teachers to apply for residence from outside New Zealand without having to accumulate work experience in New Zealand first;
- 4 **agreed** to add the following primary school teacher roles to the Straight to Residence Pathway under the Green List:
 - 4.1 Primary School Teacher (ANZSCO 241213);
 - 4.2 Middle School Teacher / Intermediate School Teacher (ANZSCO 241311);
 - 4.3 Kaiako Kura Kaupapa Māori (Māori-medium Primary School Teacher) (ANZSCO 241211);
 - 4.4 Pouako Kura Kaupapa Māori (Māori-medium Primary School Senior Teacher) (ANZSCO 241212);

- 5 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration will certify new immigration instructions under section 22 of the Immigration Act 2009 to give effect to the above decisions;
- 6 **noted** that Immigration New Zealand will implement the above change on 26 March 2025.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Dr Shane Reti
Hon Todd McClay
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Chris Penk
Hon Andrew Bayly
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Nicola Grigg
Hon Mark Patterson
Hon James Meager
Simon Court MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of Hon David Seymour
Officials Committee for ECO