



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Erica Stanford	<b>Portfolio</b>	Immigration
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Three Cabinet papers are included in this release, titled as shown in the box below	<b>Date to be published</b>	19 March 2026

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
12 March 2026	Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill - Approval for Introduction LEG-26-MIN-0039 Minute	Office of the Minister of Immigration Cabinet Office
25 June 2025	Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Further Decisions ECO-25-MIN-0093 Minute	Office of the Minister of Immigration Cabinet Office
4 June 2025	Proposed amendments to the Immigration Act 2009: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill ECO-25-MIN-0084 Minute	Office of the Minister of Immigration Cabinet Office
19 February 2026	BRIEFING-REQ-0026795: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Final LEG paper and Bill for lodgement	MBIE
5 February 2026	Regulatory Impact Statement: New immigration infringement offences	MBIE
29 January 2026	BRIEFING-REQ-0025726: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Draft Cabinet paper and Bill for ministerial consultation	MBIE
4 December 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0019618: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Drafting update and exposure draft feedback	MBIE
31 July 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0018175: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill – additional drafting decisions	MBIE
17 June 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0015523: Approval to lodge second Cabinet paper for Enhanced Risk Management Amendment Bill and further policy advice	MBIE
12 June 2025	Regulatory impact statement: Strengthening immigration penalties for non-compliant and exploitative employers	MBIE
10 June 2025	Regulatory impact statement: Modernising and improving information sharing provisions	MBIE
4 June 2025	Regulatory impact statement: Enabling more effective compliance powers for immigration purposes	MBIE
29 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0014611: Draft Cabinet paper for the second set of policy decisions for the Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill	MBIE

<b>List of documents that have been proactively released</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
28 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0014746: Approval to lodge first Cabinet paper for Enhanced Risk Management Amendment Bill	MBIE
26 May 2025	Regulatory impact statement: Expanding criminal deportation liability	MBIE
	Regulatory impact statement: Clarifying section 150 of the Immigration Act 2009 to prevent asylum claimants who withdrew their claims from applying for further visas	MBIE
21 May 2025	Regulatory impact statement: Limiting humanitarian appeal rights to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal for temporary visa holders	MBIE
15 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0014081: Should the proposed change to section 150 of the Immigration Act apply retrospectively?	MBIE
8 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0013339: Draft Cabinet paper and update following targeted consultation on the Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill	MBIE
23 April 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0013002: Further measures to address the increase in asylum claims	MBIE
31 March 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0011382: Proposed Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Objectives, scope and timelines	MBIE

<b>Information redacted</b>	<b><u>YES</u> / NO</b>
<p>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.</p> <p>Some information has been redacted for the reasons of: International relations, maintenance of the law, privacy of natural persons, confidential advice to Government, commercial sensitivity, free and frank expression of opinions, and legal professional privilege.</p> <p>Some information has also been withheld on the basis that it is not in scope of the Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill.</p>	

## In Confidence

Office of the Minister of Immigration

Chair, Cabinet Legislation Committee

### **Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction**

#### **Proposal**

1. This paper seeks approval for the introduction of the Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill (the Bill).
2. It asks Cabinet to note 13, and confirm five decisions made during drafting, and to note my intention to add some additional proposals into the Bill following introduction.

#### **Policy**

3. The Bill makes targeted amendments to the Immigration Act 2009 (the Act) to increase the effectiveness of the immigration compliance and enforcement system and improve the integrity of the refugee and protection system.

#### *Cabinet policy decisions*

4. On 4 June 2025 and 25 June 2025, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO) considered the papers *Proposed Amendments to the Immigration Act 2009: Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill* [ECO-25-MIN-0084], and *Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill: Further Decisions* [ECO-25-MIN-0093], respectively. ECO approved the recommended policy changes and invited me to issue drafting instructions to amend the Act to give effect to them.
5. Cabinet confirmed these decisions [CAB-25-MIN-0187 and CAB-25-MIN-0213], agreeing to:
  - 5.1. increase the effectiveness of the immigration compliance and enforcement system by:
    - 5.1.1. extending the period during which residence class visa holders can become liable for deportation following a conviction, and making minor amendments to other deportation settings;
    - 5.1.2. strengthening immigration penalties for non-compliant and exploitative employers, and extending the time the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has to issue certain infringement offences;
    - 5.1.3. removing humanitarian appeal rights to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal (IPT) for some temporary entry class visa holders liable for deportation; and
    - 5.1.4. strengthening the ability of immigration officers to request information if they have cause to suspect that a person may be liable for

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deportation, and closing a gap to ensure all inadmissible persons can be efficiently turned around at the border;

- 5.2. improve the integrity of the refugee and protection system by:
  - 5.2.1. restricting asylum claimants from applying for a further visa if they withdraw their claim, and
  - 5.2.2. implementing the final legislative recommendation from the 2022 review of the detention of asylum seekers by Victoria Casey KC<sup>1</sup>
- 5.3. improve the operation of the wider immigration system by:
  - 5.3.1. allowing applicants for a residence class visa to benefit from later policy changes, and enabling the electronic service of deportation liability notices, and
  - 5.3.2. modernising and improving immigration information sharing provisions, including accommodating for digital credentials.

### *Policy decisions made under delegated authority*

6. Cabinet authorised me to make further decisions, consistent with the agreed policy proposals, that might arise during the drafting and consultation process [ECO-25-MIN-0084 and ECO-25-MIN-0093]. These decisions are listed below, for noting and confirmation by this Committee.

### I have approved 13 policy decisions under my delegated authority

7. Cabinet is asked to note the following changes, which I approved during the drafting process under my delegated authority. They comprise:
  - 7.1. with regard to deportation liability for criminal offending:
    - 7.1.1. extending the ability for victims of migrant offenders to submit on deportation liability proceedings, even if they were not the victim of the specific offence giving rise to deportation liability (and providing for the Minister to have regard to the submissions); and
    - 7.1.2. adjusting the drafting of the new provisions to align with the existing structure of section 161 of the Act (this change preserves the Cabinet-agreed deportation thresholds but expresses the relevant timeframes as offences committed “not later than” specified years after first holding a residence class visa, to avoid unintended gaps in coverage);
  - 7.2. with regard to deportation liability for providing false or misleading information:
    - 7.2.1. clarifying that this change also applies to information provided orally, and instances where relevant information has been concealed;
    - 7.2.2. providing that the amendment will come into effect three months after Royal assent to allow time for consequential changes to immigration

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<sup>1</sup> Victoria Casey KC (2022) *Report to Deputy Chief Executive (Immigration) of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment – Restriction of movement of Asylum Claimants*

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- character instructions to be made; and
- 7.2.3. clarifying the use of the power at section 58(6) of the Act to decline a residence class visa application, and the IPT's jurisdiction in an appeal, where the application included false, misleading or withheld information;
- 7.3. with regard to deportation liability for visas granted in error:
  - 7.3.1. expanding the amendment to apply to all visas rather than to residence class visas only; and
  - 7.3.2. creating an additional category of visas that are void from the outset, which would include:
    - 7.3.2.1. a visa granted to a person by the Minister (under section 61) for whom there is a deportation order or removal order in force;
    - 7.3.2.2. a visa granted to a New Zealand citizen, and
    - 7.3.2.3. a temporary entry class visa granted to the holder of a residence class visa, unless it was granted under section 68 to address a previous error;
- 7.4. with regard to the amendment to extend the time for MBIE to issue certain employer infringement offence notices:
  - 7.4.1. delaying commencement to 12 months after Royal assent, to enable the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to make necessary ICT changes and allow for new MBIE processes to be developed;
- 7.5. with regard to the amendment to prevent asylum claimants applying for further visas after withdrawing their claim:
  - 7.5.1. clarifying that this change would apply from Royal assent instead of at introduction, as previously agreed by Cabinet;
- 7.6. with regard to the amendment to enable residence class visa applicants to benefit when visa settings change after they have submitted an application:
  - 7.6.1. specifying that the amendment will only apply to immigration instructions certified after the Bill receives Royal assent;
- 7.7. with regard to information sharing agreements:
  - 7.7.1. maintaining the validity of existing information sharing agreements, following the enactment of the Bill;
  - 7.7.2. enabling information disclosed under new agreements to be used, or disclosed to other parties, by the receiving party, in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020; and
  - 7.7.3. enabling MBIE to enter into information disclosure agreements with New Zealand tribunals as well as courts.

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8. The amendment at paragraph 7.2.3 is not included in the version of the Bill for introduction due to time constraints. I intend to signal this amendment at introduction and incorporate it into the Bill at a later stage.

I seek Cabinet's confirmation of four decisions relating to employer infringement offences

9. Cabinet agreed, subject to implementation costs, to extend the time limit for MBIE to complete the procedural requirements for the employer infringement offences in sections 359A(1)(a) and (b) of the Act from six months after the date of the offending to either 12 months after the date MBIE became aware of the offending or six years after the date of the offending (whichever is sooner) [ECO-25-MIN-0093].
10. The policy intent was to address situations where exploited migrants may not report offending until *after* an employment relationship has ended, and where more complex investigations cannot always be completed within the timeframes prescribed in the Summary Proceedings Act 1957. However, further analysis identified workability issues with dual timeframes, particularly interactions with existing statutory processes.
11. To address these issues, I seek your agreement to a revised approach, under which the Act would establish a single limitation period of six years after the date on which the infringement offence is alleged to have been committed. I consider that the 12-month timeframe from the date MBIE becomes aware of the offending remains important to support timely enforcement, and recommend that it be implemented through operational guidance rather than prescribed in the Act.
12. I also seek your agreement that the extended timeframe to issue infringement notices would apply to the new infringement offence described in paragraph 14.1 below, as the same rationale applies.
13. The Cabinet policy paper under ECO-25-SUB-0093 advised Ministers of my intention to later, via regulations, introduce two new infringement offences [ECO-25-MIN-0093].
14. I have received advice that the best way to achieve the policy intent is to create the new infringement offences in the Act itself, rather than regulations. I seek Cabinet agreement to include in the Bill two new employer infringement offences for:
- 14.1. providing incorrect and / or incomplete information (for example, in an accreditation or job check application), noting that MBIE would have up to six years to discover this behaviour, and
- 14.2. failing to provide documents when requested under section 277 of the Act (which allows an immigration officer to enter an employer's premises and to request wage and time records).
15. I also ask Cabinet to agree that the infringement fee for these offences would be \$1,000, consistent with comparable existing immigration employer infringement offences.
16. A regulatory impact statement (RIS) for these proposals is attached at Appendix One.

I seek Cabinet's agreement to rescind one previous decision relating to information sharing

17. Cabinet agreed that section 303 of the Act be amended to clarify that references to 'a person' include deceased persons [ECO-25-MIN-0093]. Upon further examination, officials' view is that section 303 of the Act is already sufficiently clear in this regard,

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and further amendment would risk creating doubt about the meaning of 'person' in the Act more broadly. I therefore seek Cabinet's agreement to rescind the previous decision.

### I propose to seek Cabinet's agreement to include additional matters in the Bill after introduction

18. I will shortly be seeking Cabinet approval of proposals aimed at safeguarding our protection system against unfounded asylum claims. Following consultation between my officials and the Office of the Clerk, and subject to Cabinet agreement, I propose to table a parliamentary paper following the Bill's introduction and to note the proposals in my first reading speech. [REDACTED] Confidential advice to Government [REDACTED]

### *Why a Bill is required*

19. The changes proposed in this Bill can only be enabled through primary legislation. It is not feasible to implement non-regulatory alternatives to achieve equivalent outcomes.

### *Impact analysis*

20. Six individual RISs were prepared when the original policy work was undertaken. They were reviewed by MBIE quality assurance panels and were submitted at the point that Cabinet Committee approval of the major policy changes relating to the Bill was sought [ECO-25-SUB-0084 and ECO-25-SUB-0093].
21. The panels determined that each RIS partially meets the quality expectations for regulatory impact analysis. The RISs could not fully meet quality expectations due to insufficient consultation. The further RIS noted at paragraph 16 above is attached for the proposal to add new infringement offences into the Act. The panel considered that it met the quality assurance criteria.
22. The remaining proposals were not considered by the Ministry for Regulation to be sufficiently material to require a RIS.

### **Compliance**

23. The Bill complies with each of the following:
- 23.1. the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi;
  - 23.2. the rights and freedoms contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Human Rights Act 1993 (see from paragraph 24);
  - 23.3. the disclosure statement requirements (a disclosure statement has been prepared and is attached to this paper);
  - 23.4. the principles and guidelines set out in the Privacy Act 2020;
  - 23.5. relevant international standards and obligations; and
  - 23.6. the Legislation Guidelines (2021 edition), which are maintained by the Legislation Design and Advisory Committee.

### *New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990*

24. The deportation liability amendments in the Bill potentially engage four rights affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (BORA):

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- 24.1. section 9, which affirms that everyone has the right not to be subjected disproportionately severe treatment or punishment;
  - 24.2. section 18, which prohibits requiring non-citizens to leave the country “except under a decision taken on grounds prescribed by law”. The deportation-related proposals in this Bill would ensure such grounds are prescribed in law;
  - 24.3. section 19, which affirms the right to be free from discrimination; and
  - 24.4. section 26, which prohibits someone who is convicted of an offence from being punished again (double jeopardy).
25. I consider that any limitations on sections 18 and 19 are justified under section 5 of the BORA. It is necessary for the proper functioning of the immigration system that the Act allows for the deportation of those who no longer meet their visa requirements, specifically that they be of good character and abide by New Zealand laws. Also, deportation liability is considered a consequence of offending rather than a penalty, and is therefore consistent with section 26 of the BORA. While the changes increase the likelihood that lower-level offending may result in deportation liability, this is justified and mitigated by existing procedural safeguards and appeal rights.
26. Removing IPT appeal rights from some temporary entry class visa holders potentially engages the right to natural justice (section 27 of the BORA). I consider this justified, given that people who hold temporary entry class visas do not have an expectation of, or entitlement to, permanent stay in New Zealand.
27. A BORA vet is currently in progress.

### **Consultation**

28. The following agencies were consulted on the proposed amendments to the Act during the development of the Bill, and their feedback was incorporated: the Departments of Corrections, Internal Affairs, and the Prime Minister and Cabinet; the Ministries for Ethnic Communities, and Pacific Peoples; the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Justice; the Office of the Privacy Commissioner (see comment below), and the Treasury. Early engagement has also been undertaken with the Legislative Design Advisory Committee and Parliamentary Counsel Office.

#### *Privacy Commissioner comment*

29. The Privacy Commissioner appreciates being involved throughout the development of the Bill. However, the Privacy Commissioner continues to have concerns on the broad nature of the proposed information sharing agreements that will be enabled through the Bill. Given the highly sensitive nature of immigration information, he believes that an overly broad information sharing framework remains disproportionate when the Privacy Act enables information sharing for specific purposes which could be covered through more targeted Approved Information Sharing Agreements.
30. If the information sharing agreement remains as drafted in the Bill, his preference is for the information sharing agreements to be signed at Ministerial level. He believes Ministerial oversight is appropriate given the broad purposes and sharing of sensitive information the Bill would enable.
31. The Privacy Commissioner also strongly supports the Digital Identity Services Trust Framework (DISTF) to be used when considering information sharing with non-

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governmental organisations (NGOs). The Privacy Commissioner believes the DISTF should be used to enable sharing about individuals unless there is a clear reason why the individual needs to be bypassed. He is concerned that providing for the use of digital credentials separate to progressing the ability for MBIE to share information under agreements with NGOs is a lost opportunity to drive uptake of the DISTF.

### *Targeted external consultation*

32. Officials also carried out targeted consultation on an exposure draft version of the Bill with stakeholders, including Business New Zealand, the Employers and Manufacturers Association, members of the Immigration New Zealand's Immigration Focus Group, the Chief Victims Adviser, the Law Association of New Zealand, the New Zealand Law Society, and the Office of the Ombudsman.

### **Binding on the Crown**

33. The Act is binding on the Crown. This Bill does not propose to change this.

### **Creating new agencies or amending law relating to existing agencies.**

34. Not applicable.

### **Allocation of decision making powers**

35. Not applicable.

### **Associated regulations**

36. Officials have not identified any necessary changes to regulations resulting from the Bill.

### **Other instruments**

37. Not applicable.

### **Definition of Minister/department**

38. The Bill does not contain a definition of Minister, department, or chief executive of a department.

### **Commencement of legislation**

39. Most of the provisions in the Bill will come into force on the day after Royal assent. The provisions relating to the time available for MBIE to issue notices for certain infringement offences will come into force 12 months after Royal assent, to enable the MoJ to make necessary ICT changes and allow for MBIE processes to be developed. The provisions expanding the range of false and misleading submissions that can make a resident liable for deportation will come into effect three months after Royal assent to allow time for consequential changes to immigration character instructions to be made.

### **Parliamentary stages**

40. I plan to introduce the Bill on Monday 16 March 2026, and to have its first reading Co  
I propose a five-month period of Select Committee consideration, which would see the Bill reported back in late August 2026 and passed before the 2026 General Election.

## Publicity

41. I intend to issue a press release when the Bill is introduced. This will be accompanied by the proactive release of relevant Cabinet papers, and supporting material, and the publication of the RISs, to inform people who are interested in making submissions on any aspects of the Bill to the Select Committee considering it.

## Proactive Release

42. I intend to proactively release this paper, and the associated policy papers, at the point that the Bill is introduced, subject to any redactions consistent with the Official Information Act 1982.

## Recommendations

The Minister of Immigration (the Minister) recommends that the Committee:

- 1 **note** that the Minister has requested that the Immigration (Enhanced Risk Management) Amendment Bill (the Bill) hold a category 3 priority (to be passed before the 2026 General Election) on the 2026 Legislation Programme;
- 2 **note** that Cabinet has agreed to amend the Immigration Act 2009 (the Act), to:
  - 2.1 increase the effectiveness of the immigration compliance and enforcement system;
  - 2.2 improve the integrity of the refugee and protection system; and
  - 2.3 improve the operation of the wider immigration system [ECO-25-MIN-0084 and ECO-25-MIN-0093];
- 3 **note** that Cabinet authorised the Minister to make decisions, consistent with the policy proposals in the paper under ECO-25-SUB-0084 and ECO-25-SUB-0093, that might arise during the drafting and consultation process [ECO-25-MIN-0084 and ECO-25-MIN-0093];
- 4 **note** that the Minister has made 13 policy decisions, consistent with the authorisation in recommendation 3 above, which are consistent with Cabinet's policy decisions, but which refine, augment, or narrow their scope:
  - 4.1 with regard to deportation liability for criminal offending:
    - 4.1.1 extending the ability for victims of migrant offenders to submit on deportation liability proceedings, even if they were not the victim of the specific offence giving rise to their deportation liability, and providing for the Minister to have regard to the submissions; and
    - 4.1.2 adjusting the drafting of the new provisions to align with the existing structure of section 161 of the Act, to avoid unintended gaps in coverage;
  - 4.2 with regard to deportation liability relating to the provision of false or misleading information:
    - 4.2.1 clarifying that this change also applies to information provided orally, and instances where relevant information has been concealed;
    - 4.2.2 providing that the amendment will come into effect three months after Royal assent; and
    - 4.2.3 clarifying the use of the power at section 58(6) of the Act to decline a residence class visa application, and the Immigration and Protection

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Tribunal's jurisdiction in an appeal, where the application included false, misleading or withheld information

- 4.3 with regard to deportation liability for visas granted in error:
  - 4.3.1 expanding the amendment to apply to all visas rather than residence class visas only; and
  - 4.3.2 create an additional category of visas that are void from the outset, which would include:
    - 4.3.2.1 a visa granted to a person by the Minister (under section 61) to whom there is a deportation order or removal order in force;
    - 4.3.2.2 visas granted to a New Zealand citizen; and
    - 4.3.2.3 a temporary entry class visa granted to the holder of a residence class visa, unless it was granted (under section 68) due to a previous error;
- 4.4 with regard to the amendment to extend the time for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to issue certain employer infringement offence notices, delaying commencement to 12 months after Royal assent, to enable the Ministry of Justice to make necessary ICT changes and allow for new MBIE processes to be developed;
- 4.5 with regard to the amendment to prevent asylum claimants from applying for further visas after withdrawing their claim, clarifying that this change would apply from Royal assent instead of at introduction, as previously agreed by Cabinet;
- 4.6 with regard to the amendment to enable residence class visa applicants to benefit when visa settings change after they have submitted an application, specifying that the amendment will only apply to immigration instructions certified after the Bill achieves Royal assent;
- 4.7 with regard to information sharing agreements:
  - 4.7.1 maintaining the validity of existing information sharing agreements, following the enactment of the Bill;
  - 4.7.2 enabling information disclosed under new agreements be used, or disclosed to other parties, by the receiving party, in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020; and
  - 4.7.3 enabling MBIE to enter into information disclosure agreements with New Zealand tribunals as well as courts;
- 5 **note** that due to time constraints, the amendment at recommendation 4.2.3 is not included in the version of the Bill for introduction, but will be signalled at the point of introduction and incorporated into the Bill at a later date;
- 6 **note** that Cabinet agreed to extend the time limit for MBIE to complete the procedural requirements for the employer infringement offence notices in sections 359A(1)(a) and (b) of the Act, from six months after the date of the offending, to either 12 months after the date MBIE became aware of the offending or six years after the date of the offending (whichever is sooner) [ECO-25-MIN-0093];

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- 7 **note** that, to better align with existing legislation, the Minister proposes a revised approach under which legislation would establish a single limitation period of six years after the date on which the infringement offence is alleged to have been committed, with a 12-month timeframe from the date MBIE becomes aware of the offending prescribed in operational guidance;
- 8 **agree** to the revised approach proposed in recommendation 7;
- 9 **agree** that the extended timeframe to issue infringement notices also apply to the new employer infringement offence set out in recommendation 12.1 below;
- 10 **note** that the paper under ECO-25-SUB-0093 advised of the Minister's intent to create two new employer infringement offences, later, via regulations [ECO-25-MIN-0093];
- 11 **note** that, following advice received during drafting, the Minister proposes to include those infringement offences in the Bill itself;
- 12 **agree** to the revised approach proposed in recommendation 11, namely the inclusion of two new employer infringement offences in the Bill, as follows:
- 12.1 providing incorrect and / or incomplete information, noting that MBIE would have up to six years to discover this behaviour;
- 12.2 failing to provide documents when requested under section 277 of the Act;
- 13 **agree** that the infringement fee for these offences would be \$1,000, consistent with existing immigration employer infringement offences;
- 14 **note** that Cabinet agreed that section 303 of the Act be amended to clarify that references to 'a person' include deceased persons [ECO-25-MIN-0093];
- 15 **note** that upon further examination, officials' view is that section 303 of the Act is already sufficiently clear in this regard, and further amendment would risk creating doubt about the meaning of 'person' in the Act more broadly;
- 16 **agree** to rescind the decision in minute 22 of ECO-25-MIN-0093;
- 17 **note** that, subject to Cabinet's upcoming decisions on the policy proposals, the Minister proposes to put forward additional proposals to improve the integrity of the refugee and protection system, to table a parliamentary paper and to refer to them in the first reading speech, Confidential advice to Government
- 18 **approve** the Bill for introduction, subject to the final approval of the government caucus and sufficient support in the House of Representatives;
- 19 **agree** that the Minister may approve minor and technical changes to the Bill, prior to introduction;
- 20 **agree** that the Bill be introduced on 16 March 2026;
- 21 **agree** that the government propose that the Bill be:
- 21.1 referred to the Employment and Workforce Committee for consideration; and
- 21.2 enacted before the 2026 General Election.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Erica Stanford  
Minister of Immigration