



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Erica Stanford	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Erica Stanford – April 2026	Date to be published	24 April 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
March 2026	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Erica Stanford – April 2026	Office of the Minister of Immigration
30 March 2026	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Erica Stanford – April 2026 CAB-26-MIN-0100 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

NO

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.

[In Confidence]

Office of the Minister of Immigration

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Erica Stanford – April 2026

Proposal

1. I seek approval from Cabinet to travel to Singapore from 19 - 22 April in my capacity as Minister of Immigration.
2. I will lead a delegation of immigration and investment private sector participants to promote our Active Investor Plus visa. Since it was implemented on 1 April 2025 this visa has generated significant new proposed investment in New Zealand of \$3.62b with continued strong interest from Asia.
3. This travel follows on from my attendance at three successful Invest NZ events last year in the USA. Following these events 24 AIP applications have been made by attendees valued at over \$120m. I am advised that a number of the applicants stated that the presence of the Minister at the events demonstrated the strong support the Government for the AIP visa and this was a factor in their decision to apply.
4. The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle and leave from the House has been approved.

Purpose of travel

5. If approved, I will:
 - a. Attend an Invest NZ event and meet with potential investors as organised by Invest NZ and/or members of the accompanying delegation;
 - b. Seek a bilateral meeting with the new Singaporean Minister of Education, Mr Desmond Lee

Ministerial Party

6. I will be accompanied by my Specialist Ministerial Advisor as part of the Ministerial Delegation. Travel costs of the Ministerial party will be a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.

Travel Costs

7. Indicative costs are as follows:

	Budget
Airfares	\$18,875.28
Accommodation	\$3,500.00
Per Diem	\$1,500.00
Surface Travel & facilitation	\$3,000.00
Cellular Roaming Charges	\$120.00
Contingency [5%]	\$1,399.77
Total	\$28,395.05

Acting Ministers

8. In my absence, Acting Ministers in my portfolios will be:

- a. Hon David Seymour – Education
- b. Hon Chris Penk – Immigration
- c. Hon Louise Upston – Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith-based Institutions

Recommendations

I recommend that Cabinet

1. **Authorise** my absence from New Zealand from 11.55pm, Sunday 19 April to 8.25am, Wednesday 22 April to travel to Singapore to promote the Active Investor Plus (AIP) visa
2. **Note** that I will be accompanied by my Specialist Ministerial Advisor
3. **Approve** the expenditure of up to \$28,395.05 for travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel
4. **Agree** that the following act in my portfolios:
 - 4.1. Hon David Seymour – Education
 - 4.2. Hon Chris Penk – Immigration
 - 4.3. Hon Louise Upston – Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the care of Faith-based Institutions

5. **Note** that leave from Parliament has been approved by the party whip

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Erica Stanford
Minister of Immigration