



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Erica Stanford	Portfolio	Immigration
Title of Cabinet paper	Immigration (Visa Entry Permission and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026	Date to be published	4 June 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
April 2026	Immigration (Visa Entry Permission and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026	Office of the Minister of Immigration
April 2026	Immigration (Visa Entry Permission and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026 – Order in Council	Parliamentary Counsel Office
23 April 2026	Immigration (Visa Entry Permission and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026 LEG-26-Min-0063 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.



Cabinet Legislation 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.

Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026

Portfolio Immigration

On 23 April 2026, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that in August 2025, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee took decisions to reduce visitor visa fees for Pacific Islands Forum nationals for a 12-month period [SOU-25-MIN-0097];
- 2 **noted** that the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Immigration, and Minister of Finance have jointly agreed to reduce fees from \$175 to \$120;
- 3 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration has since made the decision to implement this policy change through the existing Pacific fee band;
- 4 **noted** that section 403(A)(1) of the Immigration Act 2009 requires that regulations may be made only on the recommendation of the responsible Minister;
- 5 **noted** the advice of the Minister of Immigration that the above requirement has been met;
- 6 **noted** that the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026 (the Amendment Regulations) will give effect to the decisions referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3;
- 7 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 28804/5.0];
- 8 **noted** that the Amendment Regulations come into force on 1 June 2026, and contain provisions that will return the fee to \$175 on 1 June 2027;
- 9 **noted** that the Minister of Immigration will report back to Cabinet prior to the fee returning to \$175 to seek decisions about the continuation, revocation, or amendment of the policy.

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Attendance (see over)

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon James Meager
Hon Mike Butterick
Stuart Smith MP
Todd Stephenson MP
Jamie Arbuckle MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG