



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 17 August to 23 August 2022

Date:	24 August 2022	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	2223-0648

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Michael Wood Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting	N/A
Hon Phil Twyford Associate Minister of Immigration	For information	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration		s 9(2)(a)
Stephen Dunstan	General Manager Enablement Immigration New Zealand	s9(2)(a)	
s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Dunstan
General Manager
Enablement
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

3.8 Biometric Capability Update

Richard Owen
General Manager
Verification and Compliance
s 9(2)(a)

Identity resolution is critical to INZ visa application and risk management processes. The Identity Management solution (IDme) provides INZ with the capability to be the authoritative source of identity information for all non-New Zealanders. It provides biographic- and biometric-related policies, tools, and supporting processes.

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project delivers a significant upgrade to the INZ biometrics management, capture, and matching solution that is the all-of-government source of identity information for non-New Zealanders. The IDme biometric matching and management engine is outdated, and the system is unnecessarily complex and inflexible, and is poorly aligned with INZ's future business needs. The project also includes improvements to the in-person enrolment capability which provides portable and user-friendly hardware that can be used securely in the field to support compliance activities, mass arrival planning, and future refugee selection missions.

This is a core capability for INZ's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, terrorism, and other sources of harm are prevalent and increasingly diverse and sophisticated, and this upgraded capability is crucial. The BCU project will address each of these needs by upgrading the versions of biometric matching and management platforms, rationalising and simplifying the platform to reduce ongoing cost and improving the flexibility and utility of the system in the process. Along with the ADEPT Programme, the BCU is also a key enabler for the replacement and decommissioning of the current IGMS system.

A business case was approved in August 2019 by MBIE's Business Change Board and following review and endorsement to proceed from Treasury, a briefing [2122-1880] was approved by the Minister of Finance and the previous Minister of Immigration due to the Whole of Life Costs (WOLC) exceeding MBIE's financial delegation of \$20M.

Since the project was initiated, considerable design work has been undertaken, which revealed unexpected levels of technical complexity and challenges with the management of business information flows. This meant that the original solution approach would not deliver all the outcomes defined within the business case, and along with the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, a series of change requests have been necessary.

As the project progresses, further challenges continue to be worked through from both a technical and resourcing perspective as INZ moves towards go live scheduled for August 2023. The project is currently on track to move from development through to system integration testing commencing in October 2022. MBIE Governance is in the process of approving a further change request and have requested some additional assurance activities including review of the current governance structure and an independent quality assurance review. There is a risk that any further requests for funding will exceed Joint Ministers delegation and require Cabinet approval. MBIE will provide regular updates and can provide a more detailed briefing on the project if required.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 26 October to 1 November 2022

Date:	2 November 2022	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	2223-1582

Ministers	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Michael Wood Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting	N/A
Hon Phil Twyford Associate Minister of Immigration	For information	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration		s 9(2)(a)
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Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

1. IMMIGRATION PORTFOLIO OFFICIALS' MEETING

1.1 Actions from previous officials' meetings

Action	Due Date	Responsible	Status
MBIE to provide a further briefing on ICT system discussed in officials meeting	26 October	MBIE - DDI	Underway

Out of Scope

3.7 Biometric Capability Update project

s9(2)(a)

General Manager (Acting)
Verification and Compliance

s 9(2)(a)

Identity resolution is critical to INZ's visa processing and risk management. The Identity Management solution (IDme) provides INZ with capability to be the authoritative source of identity information for all non-New Zealand citizens. It provides biographic and biometric-related policies, tools, and supporting processes.

The Biometric Capability Update project delivers a significant upgrade of the current INZ biometrics management, capture, and matching solution. This is a core capability for New Zealand's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, terrorism, including cyber terrorism, and other sources of harm are prevalent and increasingly diverse and sophisticated, and this upgraded capability is crucial to risk mitigation and meeting future business needs.

Work is now underway to plan project timeframes to meet an August 2023 implementation date. The new software has now been developed and the first phase of deployment of the solution into the Ministry's system integration testing environment is complete. This is a significant milestone for the project and will enable the next critical milestone, loading of the biometric and biographical data into the new solution, to commence in November. Officials will provide the Minister with a further update once this activity has commenced.

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 23 November to 29 November 2022

Date:	30 November 2022	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	2223-1955

Ministers	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Michael Wood Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting	N/A
Hon Phil Twyford Associate Minister of Immigration	For information	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	
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s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

3.11 Biometric Capability Update project

s9(2)(a)

Acting BCU Business Owner

s 9(2)(a)

The Biometric Capability Update project delivers a significant upgrade of the current INZ biometrics management, capture, and matching solution. This is a core capability for New Zealand's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, terrorism, including cyber terrorism, and other sources of harm are prevalent and increasingly diverse and sophisticated, and this upgraded capability is crucial to risk mitigation and meeting future business needs.

MBIE has commenced loading of the biometric and biographical data into the new solution, with the initial batch of data loaded having been validated and reconciled successfully. On 25 November 2022 the vendor, NEC, provided a showcase presentation of the new solution to senior MBIE stakeholders in a joint collaboration between the project team and the vendors. This was the first visibility of the new solution for many stakeholders and showcased the modern functional capability that will be used by immigration staff. Loading of the large volume of remaining data will continue from now until Christmas.

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 24 May to 30 May 2023

Date:	31 May 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	IN CONFIDENCE	Tracking number:	2223-2405

Ministers	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Michael Wood Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting	N/A
Hon Rachel Brooking Associate Minister of Immigration	For information	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)		
Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Jivan Grewal	General Manager Employment, Skills and Immigration Policy	

s 9(2)(a)



Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Out of Scope

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3.3 Biometrics Capability Update project

s9(2)(a)

Verification and Compliance

s 9(2)(a)

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project delivers a significant upgrade of INZ's biometrics management, capture, and matching solution. This is a multi-year, technically complex project that involves multiple IT systems, products, and vendors, as well as very large volumes of biometric and biographical data.

Preparation is underway for the commencement of system integration testing, where the new software will be tested to confirm it will integrate with and support core immigration services. In addition to the completion of a mandated security assurance assessment and test preparation, plans are underway to provide early visibility to business users and New Zealand Police, together with vendors, MBIE technical staff and support stakeholders from July 2023.

The upgraded system is currently scheduled to go live in November 2023. MBIE continues to actively mitigate risks that could impact delivery costs and timeframes.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 2 August to 8 August 2023

Date:	9 August 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	IN CONFIDENCE	Tracking number:	2324-0009

Ministers	Action sought
Hon Andrew Little Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting
Hon Rachel Brooking Associate Minister of Immigration	For information

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)		
Name	Position	Telephone
Simon Sanders	Deputy Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Jivan Grewal	General Manager Employment, Skills and Immigration Policy	

s 9(2)(a)



Simon Sanders
Deputy Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Out of Scope

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3.5 Biometrics Capability Update project

Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border
s 9(2)(a)

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project delivers a significant upgrade of INZ's identity management, capture, and matching solution. This is a core capability for New Zealand's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, criminal activity and other sources of harm are prevalent, and increasingly sophisticated. The updated capability is crucial to risk mitigation and meeting INZ's future business needs. It will also assist with expediting visa application processing, improving customer experience, and an anticipated reduction in manual identity resolution.

The BCU is a multi-year, technically complex project, involving multiple IT systems, products, and vendors, as well as very large volumes of biometric and biographical data.

After satisfying rigorous security assurance testing, the BCU project successfully entered into cutover for System Integration Testing (SIT) on Monday 24 July 2023. Cutover will simulate the 'switchover' impacts that will occur when the system goes live. This will be followed by SIT in which testers will verify that all related systems are linked correctly, maintain data integrity and can operate in coordination with the existing systems. This is a major project milestone.

While the current go-live date for the system is proposed for delivery in mid-November 2023, it has now become evident that this date is no longer feasible nor possible and a new go-live date of March 2024 is proposed and project plans will be amended to reflect this.

These project delays are due to a number of factors. These include significant cyber security issues that were identified through testing that needing addressing by the main vendor (which has required support from both the United States and Japan), the finalisation of commercial negotiations as well as a range of change requests to ensure successful delivery. As the project duration has extended, both the vendor and MBIE costs have increased to ensure successful project delivery.

These delays and also a review of the "Whole of Life Cost" (WOLC) of the project has meant that the budget will now exceed the previously agreed cost of \$35m that the Minister of Immigration (the Minister) recently approved. It is evident that the WOLC costs will now more likely be in the region of \$45m. Given the new cost exceeds Ministerial delegation, this will now require Cabinet approval to proceed. Any additional funding will be managed through fees rather than Crown revenue.

MBIE is in the process of preparing a paper for the Minister to summarise the current state of the project and in parallel, will prepare a paper for the Minister to take to Cabinet as well if the Minister is supportive of this approach.

Out of Scope	
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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Minister of Immigration

For the period from 13 September to 19 September 2023

Date:	20 September 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	IN CONFIDENCE	Tracking number:	2324-0015

Ministers	Action sought
Hon Andrew Little Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration portfolio meeting
Hon Rachel Brooking Associate Minister of Immigration	For information

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)		
Name	Position	Telephone
Simon Sanders	Deputy Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
	s9(2)(a)	

s 9(2)(a)

Simon Sanders
Deputy Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Out of Scope

3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border
s 9(2)(a)

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project delivers a significant upgrade of INZ's identity management, capture, and matching solution. This is a core capability for New Zealand's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, criminal activity and other sources of harm are prevalent, and increasingly sophisticated. The updated capability is crucial to risk mitigation and meeting INZ's future business needs. It will also assist with expediting visa application processing, improving the customer experience, and an anticipated reduction in manual identity resolution.

The BCU is a multi-year, technically complex project, involving multiple IT systems, products, and vendors, as well as very large volumes of biometric and biographical data.

After rigorous security assurance testing, the BCU project entered into cutover for system integration testing (SIT) on 24 July 2023. However, integration has been slower than anticipated due to the number of issues identified when interfacing with MBIE's other immigration systems. The project is now focusing on the successful completion of SIT, to ensure the solution meets business requirements and that all security vulnerabilities have been remediated. At this time, further stages of the project have been deprioritised to allow focus on SIT.

Due to recent delays and the complexities noted above, the project is now likely to reach the implementation stage in the period March to June 2024. However, this date is subject to the results of SIT testing, subsequent user acceptance testing, the finalisation of commercial negotiations and coordination with other critical business activities. Further updates will be provided as each of these aspects are completed and worked through.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 15 February to 21 February 2024

Date:	21 February 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-0026

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)



Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.8. Biometric capability upgrade

Background

The Biometric Capability Upgrade (BCU) project aims to deliver a significant upgrade of INZ's identity management, capture, and matching solution, which is used as the authoritative source of identities for non-New Zealanders, both within INZ and across government.

When completed, the upgrade will improve efficiency through higher levels of automation and will lower the number of cases that require manual intervention to resolve; this will have a positive impact

Out of scope

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on visa processing times. It will also deliver upgraded equipment used by front line staff for enrolment (capture) of biometrics, including for offshore refugee missions.

The project will deliver core capability for New Zealand's future protection in an environment where identity fraud, criminal activity and other sources of harm are prevalent, and increasingly sophisticated. The updated capability is crucial to risk mitigation and meeting INZ's future business needs.

The BCU is a multi-year, technically complex project, involving multiple IT systems, products and vendors, as well as very large volumes of biometric and biographical data.

A Cabinet-set funding threshold of \$35M for the project Whole of Life Cost (WoLC) has previously been approved by Ministers.

Current situation

The project is in the delivery phase and is executing Priority One (P1) test scripts in the System Integration Testing (SIT) environment with 69 percent of P1 test cases successfully completed. These scripts were due to be completed on 23 February 2024 although are now slightly delayed until 7 March 2024.

The updated project schedule is currently projecting a probable Go Live date of 29 October 2024 with the Project Closure Report due in January 2025. These dates will solidify as further testing progresses. These probable dates also take into account the busy holiday period and the additional pressure on the Immigration system if go live is any later and is also across the long Labour Weekend period which will allow an additional day for successful project deployment.

There is the possibility that the BCU Project will exceed its current authorised spending limit. This will become more certain as further testing is carried out and completed. If this becomes the case, any additional finances required (via fees) would require consideration alongside the upcoming fees and levies review. If additional funding is required, we would keep you apprised of progress and present a more detailed update and business case alongside the Fees and Levy paper to Cabinet in April 2024 to confirm the importance of the project, the new probable Go Live date, an update on the Whole of Life Costs (WOLC) and likely additional funding (via fees) required to complete the project successfully which would ultimately require Cabinet approval.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 5 April to 10 April 2024

Date:	10 April 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2486

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.5. Biometric Capability Update

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project is in the testing phase and has completed 93 per cent of Priority One¹ test cases in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. Priority Two² test cases

¹ Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

² Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level. Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



are now underway, and we envisage the business commencing its testing in May 2024, when the solution is deployed to the User Acceptance Test environment. In parallel, Security testing is taking place to identify any critical or high issues that need to be resolved prior to project Go Live. These findings are due to be shared in the next two weeks. Once testing has been completed in SIT, the project team will be able to update the Standard Operating Procedures and training manuals in preparation for business users commencing their testing.

Commercial discussions with the lead vendor are still ongoing, with the focus on the Master Services Agreement (MSA) which is currently due to expire in June 2024. Once the MSA has been agreed, the team will focus on the Support Statement of Works and the End User License Agreement. MBIE and NEC are comfortable with the progression of the negotiations.

An Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) review is scheduled to take place at the end of April to provide further assurance on the planned implementation timeframes. The results of the IQA will also help inform the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is scheduled for June 2024.

*Michael Alp
Chief Operations Officer
Corporate Services*

Out of Scope





Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 11 April to 17 April 2024

Date:	17 April 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2487

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3.4. Biometric Capability Project update

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project is in the testing phase and has completed 94 per cent of Priority One² test cases in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. Priority Two³ test cases are now underway and are 35 per cent complete. This week, the business is starting early business testing in the SIT environment. MBIE envisages full business testing to commence in July 2024, when the solution is deployed to the User Acceptance Test environment and performance testing has been completed. In parallel, Security testing has been completed, which identified critical and high issues that need to be resolved prior to project Go Live.

Commercial discussions with the lead vendor are ongoing, with the focus on the Master Services Agreement (MSA) which is currently due to expire in June 2024. Once the MSA has been agreed, the team will focus on the Support Statement of Works and the End User License Agreement. MBIE and NEC are comfortable with the progression of the negotiations.

An Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) review will take place at the end of April to provide further assurance on the planned implementation timeframes. The results of the IQA will also help inform the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is scheduled for June 2024.

*Michael Alp
Chief Operations Officer
Corporate Services*

Out of Scope



² Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

³ Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 25 April to 1 May 2024

Date:	1 May 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2489

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
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Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

3.2. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase and has completed 96 per cent of Priority One¹ test cases in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. The completion percentage has not increased from last week but a release from the lead vendor took place on 24 April 2024 which unblocked some of the remaining Priority One test cases. Priority Two² test cases are now underway and are 41 per cent complete (up from 38 per cent last week). Early testing continues in the SIT environment to familiarise themselves on how the system will operate.

MBIE has engaged an external legal services provider to support MBIE with negotiating the Master Services Agreement (MSA) and Support Statements of Work (SoW). This work will commence in the coming weeks and MBIE will provide feedback on the MSA to be able to start negotiations. The legal consulting firm will also ensure existing agreements in place are extended to ensure continuity of service whilst the new agreements are being finalised and negotiated.

Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) interviews are underway and the IQA recommendations are due on 10 May 2024. This IQA will provide input into the Delivery Confidence Review to provide assurance that the project is well positioned to deliver the expected outcomes will also help inform the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is scheduled for June 2024.

A senior manager who is familiar with the BCU project has also been seconded into Immigration New Zealand to take over the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) role due to a leave period of the incumbent. This will ensure continuity and provides additional support across the Immigration Leadership Team.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

¹ Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

² Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 2 May to 8 May 2024

Date:	8 May 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2490

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Out of Scope

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3.2. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment and the completed Priority One¹ test cases remain at 96 per cent. The completion percentage has not increased for the last three weeks but a release from the lead vendor took place on

¹ Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.



24 April 2024, which will enable some of the remaining priority one test cases to be completed. Priority Two² test cases are now underway and are 44 per cent complete (up from 41 per cent last week). Feedback from the business, which has been testing in SIT, has been positive and any areas of concern have been raised with the project team.

MBIE has engaged an external legal services provider, Buddle Findlay, to support MBIE negotiate the Master Services Agreement (MSA). This work has commenced, and Buddle Findlay has confirmed the existing agreements already in place will remain active to ensure continuity of service while the MSA is being negotiated.

Interviews for the two Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) reviews are complete with the reports available the week commencing 6 May 2024. These reports will be available to the Minister of Immigration and Chief Executive of MBIE, to provide assurance that the project is in a position to deliver the expected outcomes. These will also be key inputs into the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is scheduled for June 2024.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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² Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



5.3. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Out of scope			
BCU WOLC	21 May	ECO	26 June
Out of Scope			



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 9 May to 15 May 2024

Date:	15 May 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2491

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Casey Costello Acting Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. The completed Priority One^[1] test cases remain at 96 per cent until receipt of the next two planned defect releases planned for 9 May 2024 and 16 May 2024 from the lead vendor which will help unblock some of the remaining Priority One test cases. Priority Two^[2] test cases are ongoing and are 48 per cent complete (up from 44 per cent last week). The project has secured three more testers, who will start testing on 13 May 2024, with the aim of increasing the percentage of Priority Two test cases being completed in SIT each week. MBIE plans to commence the cutover into the User Acceptance Testing environment on 8 May 2024. The cutover is planned to take four weeks.

External legal services provider Buddle Findlay is supporting MBIE negotiate the Master Services Agreement with the lead vendor, and meetings are underway. The commercial team will also start the planning work to complete the End User License Agreement (EULA) and support agreements required to enable a go live decision.

The draft of the Independent Quality Assurance to provide delivery assurance has been provided to MBIE for management review and feedback and has rated the project delivery as 'possible'. The final report was due on 14 May 2024. The draft independent review report by EY was submitted to MBIE's Chief Executive on 9 May 2024, with the final report due on 14 May. These reports and any actions will be made available to the Minister to provide assurance that the project is well positioned to deliver the expected outcomes. They will also be key inputs into the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is scheduled for June 2024.

MBIE's Chief Executive will be meeting with the Lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional management support that the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



5. IMMIGRATION PORTFOLIO PAPERS DELIVERED AND FORTHCOMING

5.1. Papers sent to the Minister of Immigration for the period between 9 May and 15 May 2024

Tracker Number	Title	Branch	Signed Out By	Date sent	Due (for action by Minister)
Out of scope					
2324-3372	Biometric Capability Upgrade Programme Update	Immigration Risk and Border	Michael Alp	10 May	N/A



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 16 May to 22 May 2024

Date:	22 May 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2492

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Acting Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Out of Scope

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[Redacted content]

[Redacted content]

3.2. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. The completed Priority One¹ test cases remain at 96 per cent pending receipt of the next defect release, planned for 16 May 2024 from the lead vendor, which will enable the remaining Priority One test cases to be completed. Priority Two² test cases are ongoing and are 52 per cent complete (up from 48 per cent last week). Three additional MBIE testers started work on the BCU project on 13 May

¹ Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

² Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level. Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



2024, which will increase the percentage of Priority Two test cases being completed in SIT each week. MBIE commenced the cutover into the User Acceptance Testing environment on 14 May 2024. The cutover is planned to take four weeks.

External legal services provider Buddle Findlay continues to support MBIE to negotiate the Master Services Agreement with the lead vendor, and meetings are underway. MBIE's commercial team has started planning to complete the End User License Agreement and support agreements required to enable a go live decision.

The two Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) reviews, to provide a view on delivery assurance, have been completed and the final reports were presented to MBIE's Chief Executive on 9 May 2024. The project has secured a resource to implement the recommendations identified in the reports, and regular feedback on progress will be provided to the MBIE's Chief Executive. The IQA reviews will be key inputs into the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Costs, which is now tentatively scheduled for August 2024. The delay in the paper being presented to Cabinet in June 2024 is recommended so that the paper will be submitted after all testing has been completed in the SIT environment.

The first meeting has taken place between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director last week. They will continue to meet weekly to provide a channel for any additional management support that the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope





Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 23 May to 29 May 2024

Date:	29 May 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2493

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. The completed Priority One³ test cases are at 97 per cent (up from 96 per cent last week) after receipt of a defect release that took place on 20 May 2024 from the lead vendor. Retesting of bugs is underway which will enable the remaining Priority One test cases to be completed. Priority Two⁴ test cases are ongoing and are 57 per cent complete (up from 52 per cent last week). Three additional MBIE testers started work on the BCU project on 13 May 2024, which will increase the percentage of Priority Two test cases being completed in SIT each week. Technical activities relating to data migration and preparation of the User Acceptance Testing environment is progressing well and is due to complete on 11 June 2024.

External legal services provider Buddle Findlay continues to support MBIE to negotiate the Master Services Agreement with the lead vendor, and meetings are underway. MBIE's commercial team has started planning to complete the End User License Agreement and support agreements required to enable a go live decision.

The two Independent Quality Assurance (IQA) reviews, to provide a view on delivery assurance, have been completed and the final reports were presented to MBIE's Chief Executive on 9 May 2024. An Aide Memoire will be submitted with the IQA reports to the Minister's office. The IQA recommendations are being implemented and regular feedback on progress will be provided to the MBIE's Chief Executive. The IQA reviews will be key inputs into the proposed Cabinet paper relating to the project Whole of Life Cost, which is now tentatively scheduled for August 2024. The delay in the paper being presented to Cabinet in June 2024 is recommended so that the paper would be submitted after all testing has been completed in the SIT environment.

Weekly meetings continue to take place between MBIE's Chief Executive and the Lead vendor's Managing Director to provide a channel for any additional management support that the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

³Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

⁴Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level. Priority One and Priority Two test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 30 May to 5 June 2024

Date:	5 June 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2494

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment, with a scheduled end date of 8 July 2024. As of 29 May 2024, 72 per cent of Priority One^[1], Priority Two^[2] and Priority Three^[3] test cases have been completed by MBIE. The recent surge in tester resources by MBIE has had a positive impact on the number of test cases being completed each week, and MBIE is currently on-track to complete all test cases by the end of the SIT phase. Resolution of system defects by the lead vendor has been slower than anticipated, so the project is focusing on prioritisation of defects for system releases and working with the business on potential temporary workarounds.

In preparation for the project to continue into the next phase, the technical activities relating to data migration and preparing the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment are progressing well and is due to be completed on 11 June 2024. The project will then prepare for substantial business acceptance testing of the solution, which will begin in July 2024. INZ is currently focused on change management activities (including communications, training materials and standard operating procedures for staff), and planning for the system cutover in October 2024.

The End User Licence Agreement and Support Statements of Work are with the Lead Vendor to review, and the Master Services Agreement (MSA) negotiations are due to start in early June 2024. External legal services provider, Buddle Findlay continues to support MBIE to negotiate the MSA.

An aide memoire will be submitted with the two Independent Quality Assurance reports to the Minister of Immigration on 10 June 2024. This will detail the recommendations made by the report writers and provide an update on how MBIE is progressing with implementation of the recommendations. The Cabinet paper is aiming for a submission late July 2024, after SIT testing has been completed and INZ has undertaken testing in the UAT environment.

Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

^[3] Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that the INZ business will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 6 June to 12 June 2024

Date:	12 June 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2495

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment, with a scheduled end date of 8 July 2024. As at 5 June 2024, 75 per cent of Priority One^[1], Priority Two^[2] and Priority Three^[3] test cases have been completed by MBIE (up three per cent from the last report). The additional tester resources added to the project continue to have a positive impact on the number of test cases being completed each week, and MBIE is currently on-track to complete all test cases by the end of the SIT phase. Resolution of system defects by the lead vendor remains slower than anticipated, so the project continues to focus on prioritisation of defects for the lead vendor to fix and working with the business to identify and document temporary workarounds.

In preparation for the project to continue into the next phase, the technical activities relating to data migration and preparing the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment have run into some small challenges and there is a risk that the activities may be completed a week later than planned, with a new date of 17 June 2024. The project will then prepare for substantial business acceptance testing of the solution, which will begin in July 2024. Immigration New Zealand (INZ) remains focused on change management activities (including communications, training materials and standard operating procedures for staff), and planning for the system cutover in October 2024.

The End User Licence Agreement and Support Statements of Work are with the lead vendor to review, and the Master Services Agreement (MSA) negotiations are due to start in mid-June 2024. The initial

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An aide memoire will be submitted with the two Independent Quality Assurance reports to the Minister in the week of 10 June 2024. This will detail the recommendations made by the report writers and provide an update on how MBIE is progressing with implementation of the recommendations. The Cabinet paper is aiming for a submission late July 2024, after SIT testing has been completed and INZ has undertaken some testing in the UAT environment.

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

^[3] Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that the INZ business will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 13 June to 19 June 2024

Date:	19 June 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2324-2496

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
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Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project continues with the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment, with a scheduled end date of 8 July 2024. As at 18 June 2024, 84 per cent of Priority One^[1], Priority Two^[2] and Priority Three^[3] test cases have been completed by MBIE (up 2 per cent from the last report). The number of test scripts completed each week has slowed due to the testers waiting on defects being fixed and being assigned to User Acceptance Testing cutover tasks. MBIE is slightly behind track to complete all test cases by the end of the SIT phase and work is underway to understand the impact of this. Resolution of system defects by the lead vendor remains slower than anticipated and the project has prioritised defects for the lead vendor to fix. The project team has been working closely with the business to identify and document temporary workarounds that will be in place at Go Live.

In preparation for the project to continue into the next phase, the technical activities related to data migration and preparing the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment have encountered some challenges. Full transition into the UAT phase is behind schedule, with a new date of 21 June 2024. The project will then prepare for substantial business acceptance testing of the solution, which will begin in July 2024.

The Project Statements of Work (SoW) will continue following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. The new MSA was reviewed by MBIE, and feedback sent to the lead vendor on 17 June 2024. Negotiations will commence shortly with support from external legal services provider Buddle Findlay. The End User Licence Agreement has been returned to MBIE for review and the Support Statement of Work is with the lead vendor for feedback.

An Aide Memoire was submitted with the two Independent Quality Assurance reports to the Minister on 14 June 2024. This detailed the recommendations made by the report writers and provided an update on how MBIE is progressing with implementation of the recommendations. We are aiming for submission of a Cabinet paper in late July 2024, after SIT has been completed and the business has undertaken some testing in the UAT environment.

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

^[3] Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that INZ will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Acting General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 4 July to 10 July 2024

Date:	10 July 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0061

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Penk Acting Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project remains in the testing phase in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment. The scheduled end date was 8 July 2024, but this was not achievable because of the number of outstanding defects and test scripts not having been run. Resource contention for cutover to the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment is also impacting progress with testing in SIT. If testing in SIT is not completed by 1 August 2024, this will affect the critical path and push out project timelines.

As at 2 July 2024, 92 per cent of Priority One^[1], Priority Two^[2] and Priority Three^[3] test cases have been completed by MBIE (up six per cent from the last report). Resolution of system defects by the lead vendor remains slower than anticipated and the project has prioritised defects for the lead vendor to fix. A release from the lead vendor occurred on 4 July 2024, with 21 defect resolutions. There are three more releases after 4 July 2024 before a code freeze starts on 15 August 2024. All must-have defects need to be resolved by then and a go/no-go decision will be made at this point. The project team continues to work with the business to identify and document temporary system workarounds to understand which new defects are must-have.

Business Acceptance testing will start on 15 July 2024, concurrent with running the remaining test scripts and will be conducted in the SIT environment if UAT is not ready in time. Performance testing is delayed until the UAT environment is ready. The project is working closely with vendors to understand when the UAT environment may be available. Performance and Business Acceptance Testing (BAT) tasks could be run in parallel to reduce the impact on the project. The project continues to raise risks to Governance as they arise, including any mitigations and escalations required. The approach of running different activities concurrently helps to mitigate delays but adds some inherent risk.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. The new MSA has been reviewed by MBIE, and feedback was sent to the lead vendor on 17 June 2024. Negotiations will commence shortly with support from external legal services provider Buddle Findlay. The End User Licence Agreement has been returned to MBIE for review and the Support SoW is with the lead vendor for review and feedback.

Submission of the BCU Cabinet paper is planned for late July 2024, and is now being prepared by MBIE.

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

^[3] Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that the INZ business will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 18 July to 24 July 2024

Date:	24 July 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0063

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Catriona Robinson	Acting Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project is entering the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment this week, which is a key milestone.

As of 22 July 2024, 99.5 per cent of Priority One^[1], Priority Two^[2] and Priority Three^[3] test cases have been run by MBIE (up 1.5 per cent from the last report). Priority One test cases are 100 per cent complete. Our lead vendor maintained the improved rate of defect fixes in the past release cycle with 25 defects resolved and two security issues fixed. Fifteen of the resolved defects were severity two defects from the prioritised list, which are required for go-live. However, there is now insufficient time to fix all 'must have' severity two defects required for project go-live based on the current planned release cycle plan. Project governance is pursuing options to address the need to have more defects fixed, including likely inclusion of additional release cycles, which may push the code freeze out into early September 2024. MBIE is seeking commitment from the lead vendor to remediate more severity two defects per release cycle going forward.

Replanning to include additional release cycles means the project go-live date might be pushed out by approximately two weeks (from the planned go live date of 29 October 2024). If the code freeze is pushed out, MBIE will likely make an initial go/no go decision in early September 2024 on the ability to go-live in November 2024. This decision will take into account the number of defects released through additional release cycles, along with the impact of defect workarounds on the processing of INZ's workload over the peak summer period.

Business Acceptance Testing (BAT) is progressing in the SIT environment and, as we enter the UAT environment, performance testing will start. Performance and BAT tasks will be run in parallel to reduce the impact on the project critical path. The approach of running different activities concurrently helps to mitigate delays but adds some inherent risk. Compressing the timeframe by adding additional release cycles further increases risk.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Good progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoW.

^[1] Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

^[2] Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

^[3] Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that the INZ business will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Submission of the BCU Cabinet paper is planned for late July 2024, and the paper is currently being prepared by MBIE.

Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 25 July to 31 July 2024

Date:	31 July 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0064

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)		
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

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Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3.2. Biometric Capability Update

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project started testing in the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment on 29 July 2024. The main testing underway in this environment is Performance Testing. Functional Testing and Business Acceptance Testing continues in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment.

Priority One⁴ test cases are 100 per cent complete. As of 29 July 2024, 99.6 per cent of Priority Two⁵ and 98.8 per cent Priority Three⁶ test cases have been run by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) in the SIT environment (a combined increase of 0.1 per cent from the last report).

The next release by our lead vendor is on 1 August 2024. There are currently 106 open severity two defects, of which 77 are with the lead vendor to fix. An additional release cycle has been added to fix all severity two defects that must be remediated before the production version code freeze. The code freeze has consequently been pushed out by two weeks into early September 2024. Despite this, MBIE continues to work towards the project going live on 29 October 2024.

Progress is being closely monitored at the executive level and an initial go/no go decision will be made in early September 2024, following the code freeze. This decision will consider the number of defects resolved and raised during the remaining release cycles, along with the impact of defect workarounds on the processing of Immigration New Zealand's (INZ's) workload over the peak summer period.

The go-live date may have to be pushed out by approximately two weeks (from the planned go live date of 29 October 2024). Increased involvement from INZ management on the project will help ensure that trade-offs as a result of re-planning are beneficial for the project and not detrimental to business operations.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Good progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoW.

Submission of the BCU Cabinet paper is planned for mid-August 2024, and the paper is currently being prepared by MBIE. The paper has been delayed slightly to allow more time for MBIE to determine the likely project go-live date and, dependent on this date, the project whole of life costs.

⁴ Priority One test cases cover major business functions and end to end processes, as documented by the business requirements. They do not cover all business requirements.

⁵ Priority Two test cases cover a more detailed examination of major business functions or processes, to cover the remaining business requirements at a functional level.

⁶ Priority Three test cases cover the edge cases of business functions or processes that the INZ business will encounter daily. Priority One, Two and Three test cases do not account for all business scenarios, or non-functional testing.



Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Out of Scope			
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of Life Cost increase	Draft 26 July	ECO	21 August
Out of Scope			



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 8 August to 14 August 2024

Date:	14 August 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0066

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



1. IMMIGRATION PORTFOLIO ACTIONS

1.1. Actions from Minister of Immigration's officials' meeting

Action	Date of meeting	Who	By when	Status update
Out of Scope				
Provide a BCU go/no-go A3	5 August	INZ	19 August	Underway
Out of Scope				

Out of Scope



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update Project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) project is in the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment. Performance testing in UAT is experiencing some issues and attempts are being made to increase performance without making changes to the core code. Work is underway on the pre-production environment, but the ongoing focus on resolving performance issues in UAT has impacted progress.

Functional testing in the System Integration Test (SIT) environment continues, and test coverage increases as remediated defects unblock test cases which were previously blocked.

The release from the lead vendor was on 2 August 2024. There are currently 23 remediated Severity two defects that are now being tested. There are currently 98 open Severity two defects, of which 73 are with the lead vendor to fix. An additional release cycle has been added to fix all Severity two defects that must be remediated before the production version code freeze. The code freeze has consequently been pushed out by two weeks into early September 2024. Despite this, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) continues to work towards the project going live on 29 October 2024.

Progress is being closely monitored at the executive level and an initial go/no go decision will be made in early September 2024, following the code freeze. This decision will consider the number of defects resolved and raised during the remaining release cycles, alongside the impact of defect workarounds on the processing of Immigration New Zealand's (INZ) workload over the peak summer period.

The go-live date may have to be pushed out by approximately two weeks (from the planned go live date of 29 October 2024). Increased involvement from INZ management on the project will help ensure that trade-offs as a result of re-planning are beneficial for the project and not detrimental to business operations. Change and transition implementation management activities are progressing in preparation for go-live.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Good progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoW.

Weekly meetings continue between MBIE's Chief Executive and the lead vendor's Managing Director, to provide a channel for any additional senior management support the project may require.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Out of Scope

5.2. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Out of Scope			
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of Life Cost increase	Draft 26 July	ECO	21 August
Out of Scope			



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 15 August to 21 August 2024

Date:	21 August 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0067

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.4. Biometric Capability Update Project

The project is progressing with continual focus on finalising the overall solution and has Governance oversight from MBIE's Chief Executive. The next release from the lead vendor will be received on 29 August 2024 and is expected to resolve a significant number of severity two defects.

There are currently 61 open Severity two defects that must be addressed prior to Go Live. Of which, 48 are with the lead vendor to be resolved. The final production version is expected to be confirmed by mid-September 2024 and MBIE continues to work towards the project going live on 29 October 2024, with a backup date go-live around mid-November 2024. An initial go/no go decision will be made in mid-September 2024, and will consider the impact of defect workarounds on the processing of INZ's workload over the peak summer period.

Business change and transition activities are progressing in preparation for Go Live, including the approach and development of training for staff, internal and external communications, and other business readiness activities.

New equipment to enrol biometrics for fingerprint and passports have been received in preparation for distribution to teams across New Zealand.



The Project Statement of Work (SoW) with the lead vendor continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoWs. However, temporary support SoWs may need to be put in place if negotiations continue past the go/no go decision.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Out of Scope

5.2. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Out of Scope			
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of Life Cost increase	Draft 26 July	ECO	21 August
Out of Scope			



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 22 August to 28 August 2024

Date:	28 August 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0068

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope				

3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1. Biometric Capability Update project

The project is progressing with continual focus on finalising the overall solution. MBIE’s Chief Executive provides Governance oversight and meets regularly with the lead vendor’s Managing Director.

There are currently 79 open Severity two defects that must be addressed prior to Go Live. Of which, 61 are with the lead vendor to be resolved. The final production version was expected to be confirmed by mid-September 2024; however, this date is now at risk. A decision on whether the go-live date needs to be postponed from 29 October 2024 to mid-November 2024 (or later) will be made by mid-September 2024, and will consider the impact of defect workarounds on the processing of INZ’s workload over the peak summer period.

Business Change and transition activities are progressing in preparation for Go Live. Business resourcing plans to mitigate the impact of go-live are being developed. Internal and external communication plans are being socialized and finalised. User training delivery plans are completed and learning collateral is being created. Training will be delivered to system users ‘just in time’ to maximise retention and targeted peer learning.

Preparations for the technical implementation of the solution (Go-live) are progressing including transition planning, Operational Readiness, Security testing and production environment preparation.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) with the lead vendor continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Good progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoWs. Temporary support SoWs may need to be put in place if negotiations continue past the go/no go decision.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Out of Scope

5.2. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of Life Cost increase	TBC	ECO	TBC

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 5 September to 11 September 2024

Date:	11 September 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0070

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Business change and transition activities are progressing in preparation for Go Live. Training will be delivered to system users 'just in time' to maximise retention and targeted peer learning.

Preparations for the technical implementation of the solution (Go-live) are progressing including transition planning, operational readiness, security testing and production environment preparation.

The Project Statement of Work (SoW) with the lead vendor continues, following the expiry of the current Master Services Agreement (MSA) on 30 June 2024, allowing time for the lead vendor and MBIE to continue negotiations on the new MSA. Good progress is being made between MBIE and the lead vendor with the new MSA, the End User Licence Agreement and the Support SoWs. Both parties are aiming to have a full set contractual documents ready for signature by the end of September 2024.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope



Out of scope



Out of scope



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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 12 September to 18 September 2024

Date:	18 September 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0071

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Catriona Robinson	Acting Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

A decision is expected to be made this week on whether the delivery date of the Biometric Capability Update (BCU) will be delayed until the first half of 2025. The decision will take into account the risks of delivering the product later this year during the busy summer season for visa processing, alongside the effectiveness of any required workarounds and impacts on the immigration system. There are a number of operational activities that need to be completed prior to implementation that require a stable release which is free from defects located during testing.

Regardless of whether the BCU is delivered later this year or early next year, it remains a top priority for MBIE. There has been no change to the Whole of Life Cost budget of up to \$35 million, which includes ongoing support and maintenance.

All ICT projects are complex and the BCU is no exception. Since the project was initiated in 2019, design work has revealed unexpected complexity from a technology, functional and coordination perspective, resulting in a higher level of configuration and customisation than planned.

MBIE has also experienced unprecedented levels of change to the operating environment, particularly through the COVID-19 pandemic and associated border closure and reopening. As a result, a series of change requests have been necessary to ensure the solution delivers the outcomes defined in the business case.

Biometrics are complex, and the integrity of biometric and identity data is crucial for INZ in delivering robust and timely visa decisions. There are currently 66 defects that must be addressed prior to BCU going live and we continue to work closely with the lead vendor to resolve these as quickly as possible.

Negotiations are continuing between MBIE and the lead vendor on a new Master Services Agreement following the expiry of the current one on 30 June 2024.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 19 September to 25 September 2024

Date:	25 September 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0072

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

The Biometric Capability Update (BCU) Project Sponsor has made the decision to defer the BCU go-live to the first quarter of 2025. Although significant progress has been made on the solution, there are residual 'must have' defects that need resolving, and the timing of going live needs to align with visa processing timeframes that are not during a peak period.

The project remains a top priority for MBIE and Immigration New Zealand (INZ) and work will continue at pace to finalise a solution. Operational activities, including technical support and development of training can be finalised once a solution is available.

All ICT projects are complex and this is no exception. Since the project was initiated in 2019, design work has revealed unexpected complexity from a technology, functional and coordination perspective, resulting in a higher level of configuration and customisation than expected.

A new date for go-live will be confirmed within the next week and will take into account the busy summer season for visa processing, alongside any required workarounds and impacts on the immigration system.

The project is still forecasted to be delivered within a budget of up to \$35 million.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 26 September to 2 October 2024

Date:	2 October 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0073

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

Following the executive decision to postpone the project go-live to the first half in 2025, replanning is underway, and a provisional new go-live and backup date will be confirmed by early October 2024.

Postponing the go live of BCU allows more time to complete the solution and aligns with a period of lower visa application volumes. Work is continuing to remediate residual 'must have' defects as well as other technical activities such as data migration and security accreditation.

The project remains a top priority for MBIE, and work will continue at pace to meet the new go live date. Operational activities, including technical support and development of training, continue to progress but will not be finalised until the solution is available.

The project is still forecasted to be delivered within a budget of up to \$35 million.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

 Out of Scope











Out of Scope

5.2. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of Life Cost increase	TBC	ECO	TBC

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

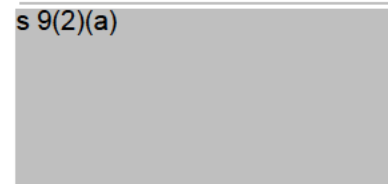
For the period from 3 October to 9 October 2024

Date:	9 October 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0074

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Simon Sanders	Acting Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)



Simon Sanders
Acting Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3.4 Biometric Capability Update project

Following the decision to postpone the project go-live date to the first half in 2025, planning work is underway to confirm a new go-live date, along with a back-up-date. Postponing the go live date will have limited impact on business operations over the coming summer peak period, and contingency plans to manage the manual resolution workload have been developed.

The key priorities now are finalising a Biometric Capability Update (IDme) Solution by the end of 2024 and preparing the production environment. The project team and vendors were informed of the go live deferral and will be assessing any impacts, including from the business. The Project Sponsor gave a proactive interview to Radio New Zealand (RNZ) on project status, due to their ongoing interest in the project. An article on the BCU project was published by RNZ on their website on 9 October 2024.

The project remains a top priority for MBIE, and work continues to meet the new go-live date. Operational activities, including technical support and development of training, can be finalised once a solution is available.

The project is working through the financial forecasts to ensure any risks are managed within the approved project budget.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Out of Scope

5.2. Forthcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Date due to Minister	Committee	Expected committee date
Biometric Capability Update – Whole of	TBC	ECO	TBC



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 17 October to 23 October 2024

Date:	23 October 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0076

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

Options for go-live dates in 2025 have been determined and are now being considered. The key priorities are finalising the overall solution by the end of 2024 in preparation for production transition.

Pre-production cutover testing, including data migration (switching integration with related systems from the old biometrics matching system to the new one) has been successfully completed, providing insights and learnings that will be applied to production cutover. Commercial negotiations, including support arrangements, are continuing, however are slower than expected. Operational activities, including communication and development of training can be finalised once a solution is available.

*Michael Alp
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border (Acting)*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 24 October to 30 October 2024

Date:	31 October 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0077

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary, Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

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3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

The key focus and top priority for the project currently is finalising the overall solution by the end of 2024 in preparation for production transition, finalising the go-live dates.

Commercial negotiations, including support arrangements, are progressing slower than expected. Operational activities, including communication and development of training can be finalised once a solution is available.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



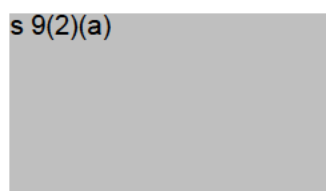
Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 31 October to 6 November 2024

Date:	7 November 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0078

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
s9(2)(a)		
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	



Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.4 Biometric Capability Update project

Options for go-live dates in 2025 have been determined and are now being considered. However, before finalising the go live dates, the key focus and top priority for the project currently is finalising and testing the overall solution by the end of 2024 in preparation for production transition. A test run of transitioning the solution into a Production-like environment has been successful, and resulted in lessons that will be applied when the solution goes live.

Commercial negotiations, including support arrangements, are continuing, however are slower than expected. Operational activities, including communication and development of training can be finalised once the overall solution is fully working and available.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration, Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 7 November to 13 November 2024

Date:	13 November 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0079

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Out of Scope

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3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

Go-live date options in 2025 have been presented to the executive steering group for consideration. The key focus and priority for the project before confirming the go live date is testing the overall solution by the end of 2024 in preparation for production transition.

Remediation of most of the critical defects is expected by the end of the year. A test run of transitioning the solution into a production-like environment has been successful and resulted in lessons that will be applied when the solution goes live. Planning for regression (final re-testing), user acceptance and performance testing has commenced. Commercial negotiations, including support arrangements, are continuing, however are slower than expected. Senior leaders across MBIE and the lead vendor are actively working towards finalising negotiations as quickly as possible.

Michael Alp
Chief Operating Officer – Corporate Services



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 14 November to 20 November 2024

Date:	20 November 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0080

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

Go-live date options in 2025 have been agreed in principle and will be formally announced once the solution has been tested and critical defects fixed. This is on track to be completed by the end of 2024.

Planning for regression (final re-testing), user acceptance and performance testing is underway and is expected to commence at the end of November 2024. Senior leaders across MBIE and the lead vendor are actively working towards finalising commercial negotiations as quickly as possible.

Michael Alp
Chief Operations Officer Corporate Services

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 21 November to 27 November 2024

Date:	27 November 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0081

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

A formal announcement of the go-live date will be made once the solution has been tested, critical defects are fixed and on track to be mostly completed by the end of 2024. User acceptance, regression (final re-testing), and performance testing is expected to commence at the end of November 2024. Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor continue.

Michael Alp
Chief Operations Officer - Corporate Services

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 28 November to 4 December 2024

Date:	4 December 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0082

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

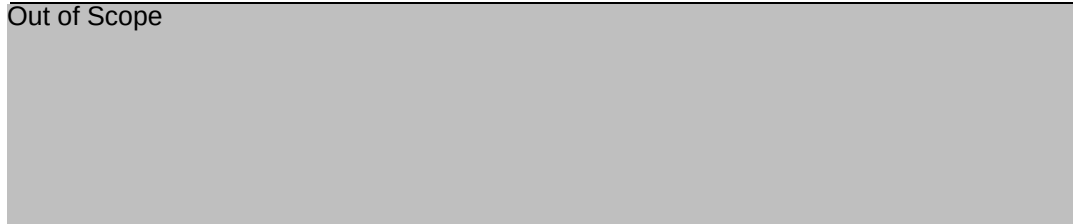
Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope



Out of scope



3.4 Biometric Capability Update project

Essential 'must have' defects are on track to be mostly completed by the end of 2024 and tested in early 2025; after this, a formal announcement of the Go-Live date will be made.

Performance testing, Regression (final re-testing), and User Acceptance testing has commenced and is expected to complete by February 2025. Feedback from Business Testers has been positive. Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor continue.

Michael Alp
Chief Operations Officer - Corporate Services



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 5 to 11 December 2024

Date:	11 December 2024	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0083

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope



3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

A formal announcement of the BCU GoLive date will be made once the essential ‘must have’ defects are completed and tested; this is on track for early 2025.

User acceptance, regression (final re-testing), and performance testing is expected to complete by the end of January 2025. Feedback from business testers on the solution has been positive.

Commercial negotiations are continuing with the lead vendor and are slower than anticipated.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration, Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 23 to 29 January 2025

Date:	29 January 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0085

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

The essential 'must have' defects are reducing, and this is a positive sign that a working solution will soon be available. Testing is targeted for completion during February/early March 2025, with the Project Go Live date expected to be confirmed shortly.

Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor are advancing with continued good progress being made on key contracts.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

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¹ Final number of impacted individuals may change depending on the final collation and refining of data.



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 30 January to 5 February 2025

Date:	5 February 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0086

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

Essential ‘must have’ defects are continuing to reduce, and Business Testing of the solution is expected to be completed during March 2025. The Project Go Live date will be confirmed shortly thereafter.

Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor are still advancing.

Preparations for Go Live, including data migration and code deployment, are also underway.

Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 6 February to 12 February 2025

Date:	12 February 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0087

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

Defects continue to reduce, and Business Testing of the solution is expected to be completed during March 2025. The Project Go Live date will be confirmed thereafter.

Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor are still progressing. Business Readiness Go Live preparations are also advancing.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 13 February to 19 February 2025

Date:	19 February 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0088

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

Defects continue their downward trend, with Business Testing of the solution candidate expected to be completed during March 2025, followed by confirmation of the Project Go Live date.

Data Migration and Production transition planning activities are underway.

Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor are still progressing, as are preparations for Business Readiness Go Live.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 20 February to 26 February 2025

Date:	26 February 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0089

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

Completion of the Master Services Agreement with the lead vendor 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA [REDACTED] MBIE is awaiting feedback from the vendor on the most recent version, with an expected completion date in mid-March 2025.

Whilst remaining priority defects are reducing, the resolution rate is not at the cadence required. To confirm a working solution, another release is scheduled for 27 February, with further releases on the 6th and 13th March 2025. Subject to successful testing, this should result in an end May 2025 go live timeframe.

To accelerate defect resolution progress, MBIE's Chief Executive has met with the lead vendor's New Zealand Managing Director along with the President and CEO for Australia and New Zealand. Follow up meetings including Australian and American executives have also occurred, with further meetings scheduled on 6 March 2025.

Preparations for project go live, including code deployment, data migration and business readiness, are continuing.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 13 March to 19 March 2025

Date:	19 March 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0092

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Penk Acting Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Simon Sanders	Acting Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
s9(2)(a)		

s 9(2)(a)

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Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope



Out of scope



Out of scope



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

The progress of defect resolution and resolving commercial issues remains the prime focus for MBIE executives, including regular meetings with the lead vendor.

Commercial negotiations are targeting an end of March/April 2025 completion date.

Further software releases by the lead vendor are scheduled for 20 and 27 March 2025. Subject to successful testing of the releases, and essential defect fixes, MBIE is still aiming for a project go live by the end of the financial year.

Preparation for project go live, including data migration, business readiness, code deployment, and transition to go live and subsequent support, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 20 March to 26 March 2025

Date:	26 March 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0093

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Chris Penk Acting Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
s 9(2)(a)		

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Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Out of Scope

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3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

The key focus for MBIE Executives is to progress defect resolution and resolving commercial issues; regular meetings with the lead vendor continue.

Commercial negotiations are targeting an April 2025 completion date.

Further software releases for defect fixes are scheduled for 27 March and 03 April 2025. Subject to essential defect fixes, and successful testing of the releases, MBIE is still projecting a solution go live by the end of the financial year.

Preparation for project go live continues, including the development of a transition plan and early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 27 March to 2 April 2025

Date:	2 April 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0094

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope



3.3 Biometric Capability Update project

The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Executives' key focus remains on resolving commercial issues and the progress of defect resolution; regular meetings with executives from the lead vendor continue. A milestone was reached with the Master Services Agreement confirmed by both MBIE and the lead vendor.

Further software releases by the lead vendor, are scheduled for 10 April and 17 April 2025. MBIE is still aiming for a project go live by the end of the financial year.

Preparation for project go live continues, including early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, Business Change Management preparation and the development of a transition plan.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*





Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 3 April to 9 April 2025

Date:	9 April 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0095

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

Resolving commercial issues and the progress of defect resolution remains the key focus for MBIE executives, with regular meetings between MBIE and lead vendor executives continuing. Ernst & Young has been engaged to provide project assurance advice to MBIE's Chief Executive.

To assist with accelerating the testing of defects, MBIE team members are co-locating at the lead vendor's Wellington-based site in preparation for the next solution release, that is scheduled for 17 April 2025. MBIE is still aiming for a project go live by the end of the current financial year.

Preparation for project go live, including Business Change Management preparation, early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, and the development of a transition plan, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 10 April to 16 April 2025

Date:	16 April 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0096

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

3.1 Biometric Capability Update project

MBIE remains focused on the progress of defect resolution and resolving commercial issues, with Ernst & Young engaged to provide project assurance advice to MBIE's Chief Executive.



Key MBIE staff have co-located at the lead vendor's Wellington-based site in preparation for the Solution Release scheduled for 17 April 2025, to assist with accelerating testing of defects. MBIE is still aiming for a project go live by 30 June 2025, however, this is dependent on the resolution of critical defects and resolving commercial issues.

Preparation for project go live, including the development of a transition plan, Business Change Management preparation, and early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, continues.

Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 17 April to 23 April 2025

Date:	23 April 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0097

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



3. IMMIGRATION OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Out of Scope



3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

Progress of defect resolution and resolving commercial issues remains the key focus for MBIE Executives.

A Solution release was received on 17 April, including a significant amount of defect resolutions; subject to testing over the next few weeks, this should result in a small number of outstanding defects and will be a positive outcome. Commercial negotiations with the lead vendor continue to progress with specific focus on support arrangements.

Preparation for project go live, including early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, the development of a transition plan, data migration and Business Change Management preparation, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 24 April to 30 April 2025

Date:	30 April 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0098

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

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Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope



3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

MBIE has been testing a significant release that was received on 17 April, and positively, the amount of residual defects has reduced significantly. Commercial negotiations, specifically focusing on support arrangements, are continuing with the lead vendor and progress is being made.

Preparation for project go live, including data migration, Business Change Management preparation, the development of a transition plan, and early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*



Out of Scope





Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 8 May to 14 May 2025

Date:	14 May 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0100

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

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3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

Resolving and finalising commercial arrangements with the lead vendor, and the progress of defect resolution remains the primary focus for MBIE Executives.

Residual defect numbers continue to reduce, with a high likelihood of a working solution being identified in the upcoming weeks. Commercial negotiations and regression testing are continuing, testing by the Business Users will begin soon.

Specialist support has been engaged to assist with implementation planning for activities from pre- to post- go-Live, and during the transition into production. Preparation for project go live, including the completion of a transition plan, early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, data migration, and Business Change Management preparation, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope

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Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 15 May to 21 May 2025

Date:	21 May 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0101

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
Stephen Vaughan	Chief Operating Officer Immigration	s 9(2)(a)
Simon Sanders	Acting Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

Stephen Vaughan
Chief Operating Officer Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment



Out of Scope

3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

The focus for Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) executives continues to be progressing defect resolution and resolving and finalising commercial arrangements with the lead vendor.

The amount of residual defect numbers continues to reduce, with a high likelihood of a working solution being identified in the upcoming weeks. Testing by the Business Users will begin soon, while regression testing, and commercial negotiations are continuing.

Specialist support has been engaged to assist with implementation planning for activities during the transition into production, from pre- to post- go-Live. Preparation for project go live, including early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, data migration, Business Change Management preparation, and the development of a transition plan, continues.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope



Weekly Report to the Minister of Immigration and Associate Ministers of Immigration

For the period from 22 May to 28 May 2025

Date:	28 May 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	2425-0102

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Immigration	Discuss at the next immigration officials' meeting	N/A
Hon Chris Penk Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A
Hon Casey Costello Associate Minister of Immigration	Note the contents of this report	N/A

Name	Position	Telephone
s9(2)(a)		s 9(2)(a)
Alison McDonald	Deputy Secretary Immigration	
Nic Blakeley	Deputy Secretary, Labour, Science and Enterprise	
Suzanne Stew	Deputy Secretary, Te Whakatairanga Service Delivery	

s 9(2)(a)

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Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

3.2 Biometric Capability Update project

MBIE executives remain focused on resolving and finalising commercial arrangements with the lead vendor, and on the progress of defect resolution.

The remaining critical defects are close to being resolved, particularly in relation to workflow, with a high likelihood of a working solution being identified in the next couple of weeks. Whilst regression testing of the end-to-end solution is already underway, this can be accelerated once the remaining critical defects have been resolved.

Preparation for project go live, including data migration, Business Change Management preparation, the development of a transition plan, and early life support arrangements with all supporting vendors, continues. Specialist support has been engaged to assist with implementation planning for activities from pre to post go live, and during the transition into production. In particular, MBIE is now focusing its efforts on ensuring the necessary training is planned for frontline staff, with training materials close to being completed. In addition, a detailed stakeholder and communications plan is well advanced and will be finalised and implemented once a go live date has been confirmed.

*Richard Owen
General Manager
Immigration Risk and Border*

Out of Scope