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BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD



**NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE**
MANATŪ AORERE



COVID-19 Response Weekly Report

8 July 2021

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1. Status Summary

Key		
Symbol	Colour	Meaning
●	Green	On track, no roadblocks, no significant delays anticipated
●	Amber	Slow progression, some delays, some roadblocks present
●	Red	Not progressing, on hold, significant delays

Border

	Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
Border measures	BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update.
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues on preparing for the wide scale roll out of saliva testing to border workers. The prototype planning has continued in Canterbury. As part of the prototype implementation, a small trial is being conducted to test the process and systems as well as the practicality of saliva testing for workers. As there continues to be low levels of take up in Canterbury, we will be extending the prototyping to other areas or sectors.
Testing and vaccination of border workforce.	MBIE	●	●	<p>Staff testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance reporting is at 97%, same as last week, for staff who worked in the week of 28 June to 4 July 2021 when adjusted for the Hamilton/Waikato cyber-attack issue. Compliance reporting for Hamilton facilities is averaging 34%. This has slightly increased from 25% last week. MoH have advised in their Dashboard report that they are working on a plan on when and how the lab data from Waikato DHB will come through into BWTR. <p>Vaccinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the week Monday 28 June to Sunday 4 July, BWTR shows of the workforce on site 95% have had two doses of the vaccine and 3% had one dose. Further information in the report. Vaccination follow-ups for those with an 'unknown' status in BWTR last week did not identify any instances of unvaccinated people going on site. There were no exceptions granted last week. MIQ-issued vaccination certificates continue to be issued periodically as vaccination status data is being updated. Of the 136 with a vaccination status 'unknown' mentioned in the 21-27 June 2021 Weekly report: 93 have had their vaccination data updated within BWTR; of the 93, 78 have had their second dose and 15 have had their first dose; all 15 who have only had their first dose are within the 35 days compliance timeframe. Of the 43 who still have an 'unknown' status in BWTR: 18 have manually proven they are vaccinated – MoH are being contacted about these; 16 still require their NHI to be matched; one had a vaccination exemption for urgent work on site (reported on in last week's report); two incorrect sign-ins to Who's-on-Location app; two are under further investigation by Workforce Testing Advisors (possible duplicate profile and unknown worker); for the remaining four, PCBUs are being contacted and the Workforce testing advisors are following up This indicator will remain amber while work is underway to resolve the ransomware attack, learn from the saliva testing prototype, and improve the limitations of BWTR information.
	BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is underway to establish a clear understanding of the MoH process for resolving existing service issues associated with ongoing delivery of Tranche 1 vaccinations, and potential overflow of Tranche 1 service issues into Tranche 2 delivery and the Sector-level risks associated with Tranche 2 delivery and new service delivery risks for Tranche 2. Each agency has its own detailed planning either in place or well underway, being led and managed from within; for example draft monitoring and compliance framework for the Vaccination Order being prepared. Sharing the relevant detail and ensuring the alignment across agencies is a continuing focus area. Work is also underway to refine and align reporting into relevant Ministers' and the CE's' offices; intent being that existing reporting channels are used to remove duplication. The indicator remains at amber due to implementation issues and risks.
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since commencement with Australia, pauses have occurred due to locally acquired cases in Australia. The status remains amber due to the current pause in QFT between New Zealand and NSW and Queensland.
Two-way QFT with Australia	BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarantine-free travel from New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia remains paused. Travel from the latter two will resume from 11.59pm (NZT) on 9 July. Quarantine-free travel from Australian Capital Territory, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria resumed from 11.59pm (NZT) on 4 July. Significant work has occurred to ensure smooth operationalisation of pre-departure testing checking for flights from Australia. Customs is undertaking PDT compliance checks of s6(c) This is likely to move to green once pauses and suspensions become a routine process.

Two-way QFT Niue	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies are progressing preparations for two-way travel with Niue. These discussions are being led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade with close support from the Ministry of Health. Lessons learned from QFT with Australia and the Cook Islands are being taken into account, s6(a)
	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have approved advice from officials on a process and timeline to commence two-way QFT discussions with Niue. s6(a)
	BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A briefing providing advice on the process and timeline for commencement of two-way quarantine-free travel between Niue and New Zealand was provided on 25 June 2021.
Reopening new travel pathways - Pacific Islands	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversations are now centred around the management of return of travellers, s6(a) Work is underway to progress one way QFT with a number of pacific islands.
	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee this week will consider a paper seeking agreement to commence discussions with Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu with the aim of commencing one-way QFT to New Zealand from at least one of these countries by 1 September 2021. This would allow large numbers of RSE workers to enter New Zealand without going into MIQ.
Country Risk Assessments	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at 7 July, there are multiple outbreaks in Australia in differing stages of containment. These outbreaks are across five states; New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia. Three jurisdictions across Australia have reported no community cases, Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and Tasmania.

Managed Isolation and Quarantine and Return to the Community

	Agency	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency Comment
Transmission prevention	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 3 June, MBIE and the Ministry of Health proactively released the recently conducted reviews of the Grand Millennium and Grand Mercure managed isolation facilities. Both facilities were reviewed following instances of in-facility transmission. In total, 11 recommendations were made across the two reviews, the majority of which are completed or underway.
	MBIE	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ventilation Working Group review results of onsite assessments have now been shared with 30 of 31 facilities. The total number of remediation proposals received to date is 16 (last week 12 were reviewed). A number of facilities have already commenced remediation work in advance of submitting their formal remediation proposal. Our independent HVAC engineer has reviewed and provided feedback on eight of the remediation proposals received to date. A further two remediation plans, along with the HVAC engineer's feedback, will be reviewed by MIQs Ventilation Remediation Advisory Group (VRAG) later this week, bringing the total reviewed to eight. We are expecting advice from the TAG on the Grand Mercure (Wellington) remediation proposal on Tuesday next week. MoH has prepared a draft paper on applying a ventilation risk framework to the MIQ portfolio of sites. The paper proposes a number of mitigations that may have an impact on the MIQ portfolio capacity. MIQ is working with Health to finalise the paper ahead of presenting it to the MIQ Technical Advisory Group for consideration. Regarding ventilation systems, the status remains amber as we assess implications on the MIQ system of delivering the remedial programme. Next steps, leading to green, will be looking across the whole portfolio to schedule the remedial work whilst balancing room capacity.

Place and conditions of stay	MBIE	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extended terms and conditions have been agreed with 16 facilities (the same as last week). We have received a further two signed execution versions, bringing the total to three facilities (previously one). We are continuing to work through getting the remainder of the execution copies issued this week. Cohorting has been implemented with facilities all transitioned (excluding special purpose facilities). The implementation continues to be monitored with a review to be completed this week. Analysis of the first two rounds of cohorting indicate that the impact is at the higher end of the initial predictions of 10-15% loss of utilisation. Work is underway to analyse this in more detail and advice will be provided to you in early July. We are identifying further changes to our system which will help minimise the rooms which are not able to be used as a result of cohorting. This indicator will remain amber while we finalise the extended terms and conditions with hotels; and until the cohorting review is complete.
	MBIE	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to make progress with post 25 March 2021 invoices. Automated invoices have been issued up to 14 June 2021, while those invoices we have to manually produce are issued up to 25 May 2021 (excluding exceptions and aircrew). The new invoicing platform, in its initial five weeks of operation, has generated over 5,700 invoices with a value of over \$26m. We have developed a methodology for addressing the pre-25 March 2021 invoice backlog and work has begun on building the solution A system update was implemented last week to reflect the change in duration of stay requirement to 180 days and for critical health workers. This has enabled invoices for June 2021 to be processed. The first batch of debt which includes 100 invoices worth \$332k has been sent to a debt collection agency. This indicator will remain amber while working through the backlog of invoices.

Community Protection

Case investigation, surveillance and testing	Agency	Last Week	→ This Week	
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the advent of winter and more people likely to present with respiratory complaints and other COVID-like symptoms, the Ministry of Health is working with DHBs to reinforce the need for the public to get tested if symptomatic. The Ministry will also be promoting this message across its communication platforms and will work with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). Regular wastewater testing has commenced in the Queenstown area. This is now part of the regular wastewater testing programme which is already in place in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Rotorua and Hamilton. As at 0800 6 July there are 2,734 contacts identified in relation to the Sydney case that travelled to Wellington on 18 June. In total, of the 2,734 contacts, 2,678 have returned a negative test result (98%), 0 results are overdue and 0 tests are pending, 33 are exempt from testing and 23 require no further action. Following 14 days without a positive case, the Wellington case is now considered closed.

Vaccination

Implementation and operation	Agency	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency Comment on Status of Focus Area
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall status of the Programme has shifted from amber to green. Following sign off from the Programme Steering Group, readiness assessments to scale-up for Group 4 have been presented to Vaccine Ministers and indicate that Programme is ready to scale. We continue to remain above our vaccination targets, with the most recent data showing that we are delivering at 106% against DHB plans up to 4 July 2021. On 2 July, the COVID-19 Response Minister announced changes to the Medicines Regulations 1984, this allows a potentially more diverse pool of COVID-19 vaccinators to be trained. 8,714 vaccinators have completed vaccine training and 3,689 vaccinators have been active in the programme. The first shipment of Pfizer vaccine for the month of July arrived two days early on 4 July with 150,930 doses. s9(2)(b)(ii) All DHBs will be using the National Immunisation Booking System by 5 July. The final data migration to be undertaken, and it is scheduled to be completed by 8 July. Significant release of new functionality within CIR is expected in the week of 5 July, including improvements across Payments functionality and the inventory/order portal.

Resurgence Planning and Response

	Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment on Status of Focus Area
Resurgence planning including review of the	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Response Plan Q3 was released on 1 July. Planning has commenced for Q4 which will focus on updating the domestic response processes, incorporating lessons identified from the Wellington Alert Level 2 and the Readiness Workshops in June.
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoH planning updates are underway in alignment with DPMC with specific evaluation across all function areas inclusive of changes in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QFT outcomes/process/support/alignment. - Vaccination rollout – potential impacts/opportunities. - Alert level considerations. - Identification and update of risks/issues/recommendations/lessons learned.
Readiness planning	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary findings from the Queenstown scenario are being worked through and next steps agreed with agencies at the national and regional levels. Cook Island response planning continues and early planning for concurrent event scenario workshops has commenced, picking up work undertaken by the Hazard Risk Board during the Summer.
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Zealand and Cook Islands health officials have undertaken considerable work to maximise the Cook Islands' health system preparedness for QFT, which commenced on 17 May. This has focused on public health capability, contact tracing, case management, and testing capacity. Readiness planning in regions is being supported by IMT, recently completed in Tauranga and Waikato, as part of an ongoing schedule of site visits to strengthen and support regional response capability.
QFT response	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Zealand officials will hold technical talks with their Cook Islands counterparts next week focusing on planning for any managed return of travellers. A virtual scenario-testing workshop with the Cook Islands is also planned to be held following this. Timing is to be confirmed by CI: s6(a)
	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managed return planning was progressed further following the recent NSW & QLD outbreaks, work is underway to transition to border agencies any future implementation of the processes. Debriefing and lesson identification from recent events is planned over the coming week.

Proactively Released

2. COVID-19 Insights

2.1 Insights of Note

Canada's recent success in its vaccine roll out is in contrast with the results observed earlier in 2021, making it a useful example of how vaccines can be rolled out quickly once they are received in adequate volume from suppliers. In Canada: 69% of the population have received at least one dose and 35% have had two doses¹

Canada's slow start to its vaccine roll out was mostly an issue of supply. The Canadian government approved vaccines from AstraZeneca, Johnson and Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer, with the Pfizer vaccine approved for children as young as 12, in May.^{2 3} Despite signing contracts for 400 million doses for approximately 38 million citizens⁴, supply to Canada was limited due to its reliance on imports from places such as Europe and India.⁵

In recent years Canada has relied on the United States for much of its supply of pharmaceutical products, but controls on United States' exports of vaccine led to deliveries of the Pfizer vaccine coming from Europe rather than the United States. In March, the United States announced that it would begin shipping vaccines to Canada and in April, Canada asked the United States for a portion of the 60 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccine the United States had in stock.^{6 7 8}

Rollout Structure

Canada does not have a unified health system through which it can operate the vaccine rollout. Canada's constitution stipulates that it must divide health care along provincial lines which makes a national strategy difficult to implement. The federal government in Canada has, however, provided recommendations on vaccine roll out to provinces and territories.⁹ The advice given by the federal government was to follow a staged approach as a means of allocating the initial doses of vaccine as follows:

- Stage 1: Residents and staff in care homes, adults over 70 (further prioritising those over 80 then moving down in 5-year increments), health care workers, and adults in Indigenous communities where infection can have disproportionate consequences.
- Stage 2: Health care workers not in the initial rollout, residents and congregate settings not including care homes, (e.g. prisons), and essential workers.¹⁰

In Ontario for example, Canada's most populous province, this plan was generally followed, with a third stage beginning in July 2021 including all remaining Ontarians.¹¹

Vaccination can be booked online on the website of each province's health service, with a wide range of clinics and vaccination sites available. Taking Ontario as an example, distribution sites alter slightly between phases and include hospitals, mobile teams, clinics, mass immunisation clinics, pharmacies, primary care, pop-up clinics, work-place clinics, and public health units.¹²

Canada has implemented a logistics and vaccine delivery network. The first shipments of the vaccine were sent to 14 distribution points nationwide, with the military used to deploy the vaccines as required.¹³ Nurses and members of the public who have been trained have been utilised to administer the vaccine.¹⁴ Ontarians can also register to help through an online portal.¹⁵

Data and Records

Mass vaccination can be aided by an extensive data and record keeping infrastructure. There is no national database for immunisation in Canada, but it does have provincial databases for health that cover the entire population through its single payer health system. This could be used to monitor things like adverse effects of vaccines for example.¹⁶ The federal government announced in May that it is working on implementing a vaccine passport for international travel in collaboration with its G7 allies.¹⁷ However, within Canada there are differences to the rules around proving vaccination status. For example, Manitoba announced it would provide immunization cards allowing people to travel domestically.¹⁸ In Saskatchewan, however, residents will not be asked for proof of vaccination.¹⁹

Equity Concerns

Canada went to great lengths to prioritise its First Nations populations, with everyone in 31 remote indigenous communities, only accessible by air, offered their first vaccination by 8 March 2021. In order to encourage uptake of the vaccine amongst these communities, local leaders were utilised through community coordinators to address local people's vaccine hesitancy. Community members were also arranged in rosters to lead local vaccine clinics.²⁰ As of 6 July 2021, Indigenous Services Canada is aware of 687 communities where vaccination is underway. Eighty-one percent of individuals over the age of 12 in these communities have had a single dose, and 55% have received a second dose, which is greater than the administration rate to the remainder of the Canadian population.²¹

First vs Second Dose

Canada opted to vaccinate as many people with the first dose of the vaccine as possible to provide some level of immunity. This meant delaying the timing of the second vaccine.^{22 23} Prime Minister Trudeau stated that Canada could return to a more normal state in summer 2021, in what was termed the "one-dose summer", if 75% of Canadians received at least one dose of the vaccine. This would mean a loosening of restrictions on travel and the sizes of groups who could meet.²⁴

The vaccine roll out appears to have been aided by a fall in vaccine hesitancy.²⁵ Polling found a reduction in respondents saying that they would not receive a vaccine if one became available, from 16% in September 2020 to 9% in May 2021. Meanwhile 82% of respondents said they had either received a dose or would receive dose as soon as possible in May 2021, up from 39% in September 2020.²⁶

Canada has endorsed a mixed vaccine strategy. In June 2021, Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommended that people who received an AstraZeneca vaccine as their first dose, receive a second dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. For those who received a mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) a second dose of either mRNA vaccine is recommended.^{27 28} This has led to a number of public figures announcing that they have received a second dose of a different vaccine, including Prime Minister Trudeau, Toronto Mayor John Tory and Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam.²⁹ The NACI said that in making its decision on vaccine mixing they considered the risk of vaccine Induced Thrombocytopenia and Thrombosis after a second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine compared to the reported complications from the Pfizer vaccine. They also reviewed the available evidence indicating that a second dose of a mRNA vaccine after a first dose of AstraZeneca produces an enhanced immune response than two doses of AstraZeneca. The NACI did announce that there will be sufficient supply of both types of vaccine to provide second doses.³⁰

Canada's Prime Minister announced that the government has secured 35 million Pfizer booster doses in 2022 and 30 million Pfizer doses for 2023, with options to purchase further doses in those years and in 2024.³¹

3. Ministry of Health Weekly Report



3.1 Items to Note/Updates

3.1.1 Publication of fortnightly COVID-19 Disease Indicator Summary Report

The Ministry of Health plans to release the most recent fortnightly COVID-19 disease indicator summary report (indicator report) on the Ministry of Health's website covering the period from 4 June 2021 to 17 June 2021.

This indicator report was developed based on the recommendations in the Rapid Audit of Contact Tracing for COVID-19 in New Zealand. It provides an end-to-end view of the public health response to COVID-19 for cases and close contacts.

The key points of interest for this report are:

- this period involves no community cases and associated contacts. Consequently, all metrics for community cases in this reporting period have no available data.
- There were 29 cases in managed isolation and quarantine facilities during this period.

Next steps

The report will be released on the Ministry of Health's website in the week of 19 July 2021.

3.2 Policy/Programme Updates

3.2.1 COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme

As at 11.59 pm on 6 July 2021, 1,270,719 vaccinations have been delivered, including 501,852 people who are fully vaccinated. Of those fully vaccinated, nine percent are Māori, six percent are Pasifika, and 16 percent are Asian.

74,037 Māori have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, which represents ten percent of the total population who have received their first dose as at 6 July 2021.

166 sites were active on 6 July 2021.

The production plan for the next seven days is for 133,222 doses across New Zealand.

Supply

The expected Pfizer delivery of 129 trays (150,930 doses) arrived on 4 July 2021, which was two days earlier than the previously anticipated arrival date of 6 July 2021.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

Medsafe is now in the final stages of making a decision on whether to grant provisional approval for the Janssen vaccine to be used in New Zealand. A further update on the process is expected shortly.

Scale up readiness

Readiness assessments for district health board (DHB) preparedness for Group 4 rollout have now been completed and signed off by the Programme Steering Group. This information was presented to Vaccine Ministers on 2 July 2021 and demonstrates the Programme's confidence in the ability of each DHB to scale up for the rollout to Group 4.

Invitation strategy

A national invitation strategy has been developed as part of rolling out to Group 4. The aim of this strategy is to use invitations to notify and encourage people when they are able to be vaccinated. The Ministry of Health is working closely with DHBs to manage operational implementation of the invitation strategy.

This strategy will involve a direct personalised invitation, alongside national and regional information campaigns to raise awareness and build public momentum. This approach will be complemented by DHBs and other providers, who will invite people to locally-led initiatives.

An invitation database has been created, which will be available to support the invitation process from 5 July 2021. This will be used to commence invitations for Group 4, with invitations being provided by letter, email and SMS.

Book My Vaccine

As of 6 July 2021, the National Immunisation Booking System (NIBS) holds 327,982 active future bookings at 106 vaccination sites.

Over the evening of 28 to 29 June 2021, 190,000 booking records were migrated from the Auckland DHB metro site from two local booking systems into Book My Vaccine. Migration dates have been agreed with remaining DHBs and plans are being signed off with each DHB and Whakarongorau (who are providing call centre services) to support this.

All DHBs are now on, and using, the NIBS.

Book My Vaccine will be used to book appointments when the Group 4 rollout begins and will be available to the wider public when it goes live on 28 July 2021.

Technology

A number of updates were released across the various technology systems being used through the Programme. This included changes to the COVID-19 Immunisation Register (CIR) to enable overseas vaccinations to be recorded and for check in at vaccination sites to be streamlined, increased functionality within Book My Vaccine to enable a good invitation experience, and improved ordering, stock on hand management, and higher quality reporting on vaccine waste within the inventory and distribution systems.

Equity

Contracts for Māori vaccine champions were sent to 77 Māori health providers last week. Māori vaccine champions will build trust and confidence in communities and will promote and advocate the COVID-19 vaccine amongst Māori. Champions will likely be an iwi/Māori leader or rangatahi leader – someone who has mana in the community.

All DHBs now have equity production plans for July to October 2021 that include weekly targets for Māori and Pacific vaccinations. These are being reviewed by the equity team. The DHB letters of readiness have all been returned and include equity clauses.

Workplace model

Detailed planning continues with both Fonterra and Mainfreight as pilots for large workplace vaccinations. The blueprint for workplace vaccinations is now available on the Ministry of Health's website, and expressions of interest are expected to be open in the week of 5 July 2021.

Adverse events following immunisation

The COVID-19 Vaccine Independent Safety Monitoring Board (CV-ISMB) held its monthly meeting on 24 June 2021. Medsafe presented the potential safety signals for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine of stroke, menstrual irregularities and pancreatitis. The Board agreed that from the current evidence at this time there was no indication that these events were signals and Medsafe should continue monitoring through normal pharmacovigilance activities.

The COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group (CVTAG) also met on 29 June 2021 to consider the risk of myocarditis and agreed to establish a subgroup to consider information on myocarditis and baseline prevalence rates in New Zealand.

Workforce

As of 6 July 2021, 8,774 vaccinators have completed COVID-19 vaccinator training and 3,712 vaccinators have actively vaccinated in the programme so far.

On 2 July 2021, the Minister for COVID-19 Response officially announced changes to the Medicines Regulations 1984, which gives more health workers the opportunity to train to administer vaccinations. The change has potential to help boost the number of Māori and Pacific vaccinators.

Distribution and inventory management

As at the end of the day on 6 July 2021, we have made 1,281 deliveries to sites across the country. This equates to delivery of 218,174 vials or 1,309,044 doses.

Since last week all DHBs are using the new CIR ordering and inventory module to place orders and to maintain an accurate view of stock on hand at vaccination sites. This is an important milestone for the Programme as this system is critical for enabling it to scale safely and effectively from mid-July 2021.

Rollout of the vaccine to Polynesia

Cook Islands

As of 28 June 2021, a total of 18,943 vaccines have been administered in the Cook Islands and 83 percent of the population is fully vaccinated. Rarotonga and Aitutaki have completed the rollout of both dose 1 and 2 of the vaccine.

The Cook Islands vaccinator teams have recently focused on administering first doses around the Southern Island group. Planning is underway with the Cook Islands on New Zealand's support to rollout the vaccine to the remote outer islands.

Niue

As of 28 June 2021, a total of 1,199 vaccines have been administered in Niue, with 99 percent of the eligible population having received their first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Administration of second doses in Niue began last week. We expect Niue to complete its vaccine rollout on 10 July 2021.

Tokelau

Tokelau continues to make good progress in its readiness for the vaccine rollout. The ship transporting Pfizer vaccines in a frozen state (at -20°C) to Tokelau is expected to depart from New Zealand on 12 July 2021 and arrive in Tokelau on 19 July 2021.

Vaccine Ministers' approval for dose donation to Tokelau is expected to be sought on 9 July 2021.

Next steps

We will provide you with a further update in the next Weekly Report.

3.3 Technical Advisory Group: Update

COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group

The COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group (CVTAG) met on 29 June 2021. The key points that were discussed were:

Myocarditis after Pfizer vaccination: The US Food and Drug Administration has added a warning for myocarditis and pericarditis to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine data sheets, after observing a series of cases following vaccination, predominantly in individuals aged under 30. There is a need to communicate this

safety information to inform the New Zealand public and present a balanced assessment of the risk and benefits.

- The Ministry of Health will convene a sub-group of CVTAG to draft advice summarising information on myocarditis after vaccination with mRNA vaccines, which will be presented to CVTAG on 6 July 2021.
- The advice will include a summary of any ethnic data available with regard to myocarditis following vaccination, what is known regarding vaccine hesitancy in men and young adults aged under 30, how this may be impacted by a potential safety signal, and potential alternative vaccine schedules to address any safety concerns.

Vaccination in the frail elderly: CVTAG reviewed the science advice, ethics document and draft recommendations on administering the COVID-19 vaccine in the frail elderly.

- CVTAG recommended adding additional wording providing context for this issue, given that evaluating the benefits and risks of therapies in the frail elderly is a common occurrence in this population, and not specific to the COVID-19 vaccine, and that these individual decisions are made with the patient, their whānau and caregivers.

Once finalised, the recommendations will be socialised with the relevant professional bodies and distributed accordingly.

COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group

The COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) did not meet in the week commencing 28 June 2021. The next TAG meeting is scheduled for 23 July 2021.

3.4 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

Date	Activity	Lead agency	Comms material	Ministerial Involvement
8 July 2021	Roche report released (review of the February 2021 Auckland outbreak)	DPMC	Press release web content, media interviews (DPMC/Minister's office) Talking points – reactive use (MoH)	yes
8 July 2021	Updated testing guidance	Health	Guidance documents, supplied by email and published to Ministry of Health's website	No
Week of 12 July 2021	Potential Cabinet decisions on mask wearing and QR code scanning	DPMC	Press release, media interviews, web content	Yes

4. Managed Isolation and Quarantine Weekly Report

4.1 Top Items to Note

4.1.1 Staff testing update – compliance statistics for 28 to 4 July 2021

To avoid duplication, please see MOH’s BEB dashboard for the latest compliance figures for the MBIE total ‘active’ workers.

We are reporting on a subset of that full data separately here, which focuses on the compliance of workers on site for the previous work-week. This way we ensure we have data for a full 7 day cycle, drawn from the Who’s-on-Location system.

While we look at the total ‘active’ workforce measure as part of our follow up work, we also want to understand the compliance of our workers on site in the last week.

Workers on site 28 June – 4 July 2021	Total	Percentage of total NHI-matched workers on site
Compliant NHI-matched workers	4,295	92% (97% if Hamilton excluded)
Overdue NHI-matched workers	339 (110 if Hamilton excluded)	8% (3% if Hamilton excluded)
Need NHI-match	37	
Workers on site	4,332	

Of the 37 that still need an NHI-match, 25 were created in BWTR in the last 7 days.

Of the 20 workers (excluding Hamilton workers) who were recorded as ‘11+ days overdue’ in last week’s report, we have confirmed nine of them have been swabbed, two have NHI issues which we have raised with MoH for resolution, and we are still awaiting a confirmation from employers of test compliance for the other nine.

4.1.2 Vaccination of frontline staff update

Through our assurance activities, we did not identify any instances of workers gaining access to MIQ who did not meet their vaccination requirements last week.

For workers on site for the week 28 June to 4 July, BWTR shows 95% had two doses of the vaccine, 3% had one dose and the remaining 2% (87 workers) had vaccine status ‘unknown’.

Of the 87 with an ‘unknown’ status, 37 still required an NHI match. The Workforce Testing team will investigate the remaining 50 workers to confirm vaccination status.

Vaccination follow-ups for those with an ‘unknown’ status in BWTR in the previous week did not identify any workers gaining access who did not meet the vaccination requirements.

There is currently one hotel worker who is unable/unwilling to get fully vaccinated. This worker will be unable to work in the MIQF while hotel employers work through the necessary employment processes with them. We will continue following up with this employer until the case is resolved.

4.1.3 Hiki Wairua Programme – launch of #treatmefairly

#treatmefairly will provide a mechanism for all MIQ workers to report instances where they have been discriminated against or treated differently because they work at MIQ.

#treatmefairly launches Friday 9 July 2021.

4.1.4 Border averters

With the recent changes to QFT and the specific requirements for each state, we have seen a number of instances of people who do not comply with the requirements of the current QFT notice entering New Zealand – we are referring to these people as ‘border averters’.

These are people who do not meet the criteria for QFT and as such, are legally required to be treated like any other returnee under the Air Border Order (ABO). Examples of their non-compliance with the ABO include not having the required pre-departure testing or being in states which are not eligible for QFT at the moment.

We currently have 21 border averters in our facilities. All are required to complete 14 days in managed isolation and will be subject to the MIQ fees framework.

Work is being progressed to amend the Air Border Order to provide some flexibility from its rigidity in averter circumstances.

4.2 Operational update

4.2.1 Capacity update

On 7 July 2021, 3,341 rooms were released in MIAS across September, October and November 2021. All of the rooms were sold out within two hours.

Existing rooms are continuously being re-released through cancellation and clean-up processes, and can be up to hundreds of rooms per day. Returnees who are the most persistent, or online at the right time in MIAS, are then able to secure a room on a date that works for them.

We are expecting the December 2021 flight schedule from airlines late July, allowing for an initial 40% December release.

Top-up rooms for release this week into August-October are being calculated under the cohorting model, to identify specific days MIQ has availability to be released.

4.2.2 Ombudsman update

In the last week we responded to:

- the provisional report for Ramada Auckland;
- an information request for Bay Plaza;
- the final report for Novotel Christchurch; and
- we provided definitions regarding red/orange/green and hot/cold zones.

We are preparing our response to the final reports for the SO Auckland and Commodore Christchurch.

The Ombudsman have provided MBIE with the opportunity to comment on a thematic report before it gets published. MIQ are holding a meeting this week to discuss the approach and consider stakeholder engagement in relation to responding to the report.

4.2.3 Security Enhancement Programme update

MBIE remains on track to move to our preferred blended security workforce by August 2021. We are aiming for an indicative blend consisting of 55% NZDF, 9% Avsec and 21% MBIE security officers whilst retaining a residual contracted security workforce of around 15% -now from a single provider.

The MBIE security workforce is progressing: 14 MBIE Security Officers were onboarded and inducted in Hamilton recently (there is now only one position to fill in Hamilton); the recruitment process in Rotorua is in progress (looking for a final three to bring Rotorua to the required 18 personnel); and Auckland has

commenced onboarding the first seven of 105 MBIE security officers. The Auckland onboarding will be staged over five weeks.

Hotel contracted security personnel will be progressively offboarded.

4.2.4 Mariners update – crew transfers to ships at anchor

MBIE MIQ has been working with Maritime NZ, NZ Customs and private business' to implement a new process which has introduced the ability to conduct crew transfers while the ship is at anchor rather than being in a port.

As per the Maritime Border Order, ships have been required to conduct their crew transfers at the last port of call. The new anchorage changes give more flexibility in the system as certain ports are challenging to bring crew into.

To carry out the transfers to the anchorage, COVID health guidance and protocols must be followed throughout the process. A safe embarkation and disembarkation point for transferring crew to utilise, along with the legal and physical ability to restrict public access, is also required. The location must also meet Customs/Immigration requirements in that it is a designated 'Customs Place' for the purposes of crew changes.

The boat being used to transport mariners is under strict condition with respect to IPC requirements and overall safety parameters. The provider has been used previously through trials and met expectations. This process is cost neutral to MBIE as the shipping companies are billed directly by the service provider.

4.2.5 Invoicing backlog update

As at 1 June 2021, a new process within the finance system (FMIS) was implemented for invoicing returnees. Invoices from 25 March 2021 were able to be processed within FMIS using the new datasets.

A project has been undertaken to reconcile previous invoicing of returnees (from 11 August 2020 – 24 March 2021) with updated datasets, referred to as the 'backlog'.

We have so far been able to identify 14,366 returnees where invoices do not appear to have been issued with an estimated liability of \$31.2 million. However, this is an iterative process and we will continue to refine the liability and reduce the unmatched items as more data becomes available. Therefore, the final number of invoices, and the amount of the liability, will differ from the above.

We will automate the process in FMIS to resolve the backlog. This involves contacting the returnees via email prior to the invoice being sent to ensure we have the correct information. We will then process the backlog in batches. This will allow us to refine the process as we go along and smooth the workflow.

We do have to build the solution in FMIS which will take some weeks, assuming no major issues are highlighted during testing.

4.2.6 Outcomes of incident report following December 2020 death in a managed isolation facility

Following the first death in a managed isolation or quarantine facility in December 2020, a review was commissioned to:

- identify any lessons that could be learnt from the response to the death of the guest; and
- determine what, if any, changes should be put in place to better manage sudden deaths within managed isolation and quarantine facilities in the future.

This review, which was completed in May 2021 found that the response to the guest's sudden death was well-handled. MIQ, DHB and Police staff were on-site at the facility and involved in the response. The review found that the expertise and experience of those involved contributed to the success of the response, but noted a lack of specific MIQ systems or processes in place to guide that response.

The review made a number of recommendations to support a strong systemic approach to future incidents. MIQ is currently working to progress these recommendations, including the development of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for a Sudden Death in an MIQF. An initial SOP was developed prior to the finalisation of this review, and is now being updated to reflect the recommendations. We anticipate this updated SOP will be released in August 2021.

All relevant health and wellbeing screening procedures were carried out with the guest prior to their death, including a face to face health check with a registered nurse the day before they died.

4.2.7 MIQ Experience Survey

The MIQ Experience Survey was launched in late April 2021. The purpose of this survey is to collect information to better understand the overall MIQ experience, so services can be improved, where needed, to ensure that MIQ is effective and efficient in managing Covid-19 and preventing its transmission in the community.

Returnees receive an email invitation on day 11 of their stay asking them to provide feedback on the four stages of the MIQ journey: 1) Planning Travel to NZ; 2) Travelling and arriving in NZ; 3) Arriving at the MIQ/Quarantine Facility, and 4) Staying in the MIQ/Quarantine Facility.

We have had a response rate of 51% since the survey commenced with nearly 4,900 individual responses.

Summarised feedback to date indicates that returnees are having a really positive overall experience with 82% of respondents reporting they felt satisfied or very satisfied.

Returnees advised that Improvements to the MIAS and booking processes would make the most significant difference to their overall experience and we are exploring this further.

98% of returnees (who stayed in June) advised that they were treated with respect during their MIQ experience.

95% of returnees (who stayed in June) advised they felt safe during their stay in MIQ.

The survey provides us with the opportunity to validate the MIQ experience from the returnee's perspective, pull together an informed narrative and provides us the opportunity to look at improvement opportunities as appropriate. We will publish some results in the coming weeks.

It is very encouraging that so far, the survey feedback has not revealed any pain points for returnees which we did not already know about.

4.3 Schedule of Reviews

Review	Date commenced	Expected completion date	Current status	Purpose
Four Points in MIF Transmission	May 2021	Final report received by MoH on 1 July 2021	Complete. MoH led. We will be tracking recommendations assigned to MIQ.	Investigate possible transmission between two cases that were genetically linked at Four Points at the end of April 2021.
Financial Management Review	May 2021	July 2021	In progress	Identify opportunities for improvement in process and procedures for supplier invoicing, review of financial reporting that is currently in place, review of financial delegations framework.
MIQ PCBU Health and Safety Obligations Review	April 2021	July 2021	In progress	This review is to identify MBIE's responsibilities as a lead PCBU and assess how well these responsibilities are fulfilled to support other PCBUs meet their health and safety obligations.
MIQ Exemptions Review	June 2021	July 2021	In progress	To assess consistency, transparency and fairness of the exemptions from managed isolation process for people entering New Zealand.
Onsite Ventilation Assessments	February 2021	<p>Testing: May 2021</p> <p>Programme of work: August 2021</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>The Ventilation Working Group (VWG) have reviewed the results of 27 facilities and meetings have been held with 25 facilities with remediation proposals requested from these facilities. Some facilities have already commenced maintenance/ remediation work to address initial findings with detailed remediation proposals received for 12 sites.</p>	A comprehensive understanding of MIQF ventilation systems, remediation work completed (if required) to optimise the performance of the systems and additional operational practices implemented to complement the ventilation system operations.
Information Management Assurance Review	Scheduled to start July 2021	September 2021	Planning	The purpose of the review is to analyse the current information management practices within MIQ.
MIQ Rapid Assessment (Phase 2)	Scheduled to start August 2021	October 2021	Planning	This will be a follow-up review following the MIQ Rapid Assessment which was completed earlier this year.
Rapid review of Border Worker Testing (BEB led)	April 2021	Two part review. Part one (focused on MIQ) due to be presented to BEB 29 July 2021. Part two (focused on wider border) still TBC when it will be completed.	<p>BEB-led report. Phase 1 Final report going to the Border Executive Board on 29 July 2021. This will be provided to your Office once considered by the BEB.</p> <p>Phase 2 in progress.</p>	To assess the arrangements in place to support compliance with the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Required Testing) Order 2020.

Review	Date commenced	Expected completion date	Current status	Purpose
Regular, ongoing reviews				
MoH Infection Prevention Control Audits of MIQ facilities	July 2020	-	Ongoing	The Ministry of Health conducts regular audits into infection prevention and control (IPC) at the managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) facilities around New Zealand. MIQ facilities are an important part of our border measures to keep COVID-19 out of the community. It is critical to the health of the country that MIQ facilities are well-maintained and any infection brought in by people entering New Zealand cannot spread into the community.
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) Systems Assurance Framework	March 2021	-	Ongoing	DPMC are working on a COVID-19 systems assurance framework that will give visibility of the end-to-end COVID-19 response system.
Ombudsman OPCAT Reviews	February 2021	-	Provisional reports received	Aotearoa New Zealand has international human rights obligations under the United Nations Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT). The purpose is to monitor and carry out such inspections of managed isolation and quarantine facilities to ensure that people are being treated humanely and their human rights are being respected and protected.

4.4 Large Group Arrivals Update

Summary of approved group arrivals as at 6 July 2021

Group	Date of Arrival	Allocation Approved	Final number of rooms allocated	Comments
NZDF Operation WHIO	29 Jul 2021	35	35	35 personnel arriving on a commercial flight and 16 on a military flight.
	29 Jul 2021	16	16	
RSE	4 Jul 2021	150	116 (150 pax) TBC	The first cohort of 150 RSE workers arrived on 4 July 2021. Further RSE cohorts arrive every 16 days concluding March 2022. This includes a reduction in numbers in October 2021 as directed by Ministers. RSE arrivals are accommodated at two MIFs in Hamilton in a mix of single and twin rooms – a minimum of 116 rooms for 150 pax will be utilised.
	21 Jul 2021	150	116 TBC	
	7 Aug 2021	150	116 TBC	
Refugees – Intake 1	24 Jun 2021	25	13 (25 pax)	A total of 114 refugees have arrived this far for Intake 1, with 9 left to arrive on 8 Jul. s9(2)(a)
	25 Jun 2021	18	10 (18 pax)	
	26 Jun 2021	52	28 (52 pax)	
	29 Jun 2021	10	8 (10 pax)	
	2 Jul 2021	9	5 (9 pax)	
	8 Jul 2021	9	5 (9 pax)	
Construction Accord	Jun 2021	60	0	The Construction Sector Accord have confirmed that they will not be using the 60 approved June or July 2021 allocations.
	Jul 2021	60	0	
	Aug 2021	60	TBC	
	Sep 2021	60	TBC	
Antarctic USAP	16 Jul 2021	36	TBC	This group will be entering on charter flights direct into Christchurch.
	19 Jul 2021	169	TBC	
Netball – English Roses	27 Jul 2021	30	TBC	This will be the first sports team under the new full cost recovery model. Engagement with Netball New Zealand regarding this group has begun.
Refugees – Intake 2	26 Jul – 8 Aug 2021	110	TBC	Planning is underway to bring in 110 refugees who will be arriving as part of Intake 2. Refugee families for this intake will be arriving from Lebanon, Thailand, Malaysia, Ecuador, Iran, Pakistan, Somalia and Rwanda.
Returning Olympic Athletes (3 cohorts)	2 Aug 2021	~186	TBC	Extensive planning is underway for the arrival and management of athletes, staff and media returning to NZ on three charter flights. If within allocation limits, SportNZ and NZOC will facilitate some Pacific Island Olympic athletes to return as part of the group.
	8 Aug 2021	~200	TBC	
	10 Aug 2021	~200	TBC	
Paralympic athletes	Sep 2021	100	5	Athletes and management returning from the Paralympics in Tokyo as multiple smaller groups, with the majority of MIQ secured via MIAS. Detailed planning is underway to ensure those with increased needs are well cared for in MIQ.

4.4.1 Time Sensitive Travel

- Time Sensitive Travel online application form and supporting Case Management System went live as scheduled on 30 June 2021.
- The application window is open until 14 July 2021. As at 6 July 2021, four applications have been received.

4.5 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

As at 6 July 2021

Date	Activity	Lead Agency	Comms Material	Ministerial Involvement Y/N
8 July 2021	Ministerial Advisory Group: COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement And Advice Group	Minister's office		Y
8-16 July 2021	Vaccination amendment gazetted and announced	MoH		
13 July 2021	MIQ one year at MBI	MIQ	Internal Communications	N
11, 15, 29 July 2021	Decision on three Managed Isolation Walks implemented	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
Late-July (TBC) 2021	OPCAT report on MIQ by the Ombudsman	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
Late July (TBC) 2021	Rapid Review of Border Worker Testing – Phase One (report for BEB)	BEB	Proactive communications	N

4.6 Fees

4.6.1 Invoicing

- The table below shows the number of invoices issued up to the 4 July 2021.
- Invoices have various repayment terms depending on whether they are a sports group (10 days), critical worker (30 days) or standard returnee/maritime crew/aircrew (90 days).

Grouping	Invoices issued (net of credit notes)	Paid	Issued not due	Issued overdue	Invoices issued (\$)	Paid (\$)	Issued not due (\$)	Issued overdue (\$)	90+ days overdue	90+ days overdue (\$)
Groups ¹	191	102	83	6	\$15,572,029	\$14,702,618	\$841,745	\$27,666	1	\$130,200
Maritime	343	223	98	22	\$1,563,911	\$1,032,583	\$481,849	\$49,479	6	\$5,757
Aircrew	204	133	11	60	\$1,088,205	\$766,445	\$69,086	\$252,673	4	\$53,197
Other	20,066	9,647	7,908	2,511	\$72,607,716	\$35,806,353	\$29,119,210	\$7,682,152	930	\$2,973,427
Total	20,804	10,105	8,100	2,599	\$90,831,861	\$52,307,999	\$30,511,890	\$8,011,970	941	\$3,162,581

¹Please note that this previously only included large groups. However, going forward, this now includes critical workers and critical health workers.

Note: The '90+ days Overdue' column represents the number of invoices from the 'Issued overdue' column that have been outstanding for 90+ day.

4.6.2 Weekly Average Invoicing and Debt Recovery %

- The table below reflects the weekly average of invoicing from 11 August 2020.
- The increase in the average invoicing for '2-4 weeks' is due to the introduction of the new invoicing platform which went live on 31 May 2021. This has dropped the past week as the post 25 March 2021 backlog is being cleared with focus now on more complicated liability determination.

	Average invoicing per week (\$)
Past week	\$4,226,393
2-4 weeks	\$5,885,339
5-8 weeks	\$2,062,326
9+ weeks	\$1,370,648

4.6.3 Waivers

- The table below breaks down the waiver application information between 11 August 2020 and 4 July 2021.

Waiver applications received	In progress	Total completed	Total financial hardship applications	Total special circumstances applications	Approved waiver applications		Declined waiver applications	
					Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances	Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances
7,992	1,640	6,352	816	5,536	87	4,747	729	789

4.7 Emergency Allocation Applications

- 3,503 applications have been processed since 30 October 2020.
- 236 applications were received in the week ending 4 July 2021 and 104 applications were processed.
- From the applications processed in the week ending 4 July 2021, 42% of the applications were approved.

Emergency Allocation Applications	Weekly Totals	Year to Date Totals
	28 Jun 2021 to 4 Jul 2021	30 Oct 2020 to 4 Jul 2021
Approved	44	1,947
Declined	60	1,556
Applications processed	104	3,503

* These figures only include completed applications, with all supporting evidence, which were received within the required timeframes, which have been decided by a decision maker.

Total Rooms Approved	48
Rooms Allocated in MIAS	44
Cancelled by the applicant	0
Awaiting flight details or MIAS registrations from the applicants to complete the room allocation process	4

4.8 Resolutions Update

- Data from the Complaints and Feedback Customer Management System for the week 29 June to 5 July 2021 is as follows:

Week	Received	Active Cases	Resolved
29 Jun 2021 – 5 Jul 2021			
Complaints	171	30	171
Improvements	2	0	2
Compliments	1	0	1
Queries	10	0	10
Ombudsman	5	27	14
Parliamentary/OIA	3	1	3
Other	0	0	0
Total	192	58	201

- The average number of complaints received each week since the start of MIQ is 105. For the last four weeks the average is 137 per week.
- This week we have received 192 new cases and have resolved 201 cases.
- The increase in complaints this week was driven by 105 complaints about MIAS and voucher availability, representing 61% of all complaints. We also received complaints about confusion with capacity in MIF's due to the data on the MBIE site and returnees concerned about 'bots' booking vouchers. Emergency allocation complaints have also increased this week (38 complaints – double the number received last week). Numbers for fee waivers and isolation exemptions remain steady.

5. Border Executive Board Report



5.1 Key Issues Being Considered

5.1.1 QFT Travel

QFT arrangements with Australia remained a major focus for border agencies during this week.

The week commenced with all travel from Australia being paused, to travel being permitted from Australian Capital Territory, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria (effective 11.59pm on 4 July) and the planned resumption of QFT from Northern Territory and Western Australia at 11.59pm on 9 July. In addition, advice and preparations have been made for green return flights from New South Wales and Queensland for people ordinarily resident in New Zealand (also commencing 11.59pm on 9 July).

Advice was developed around the ability to provide assurance that travellers are meeting their legal requirements in relation to pre-departure testing. Airlines have been asked to undertake 10% spot checks of PDT requirements at check-in. Immigration New Zealand also has six Airline Liaison Officers (ALOs) deployed to Australian airports: one in Sydney, two in Brisbane, and three in Melbourne. On arrival, Customs is undertaking checks of s6(c) [REDACTED].

The compliance regime relating to passengers who do not meet quarantine free travel requirements, including holding the correct pre-departure testing documentation remains an issue. When non-compliance with QFT requirements are identified on arrival, enforcement options are limited. Therefore, amendments are being made to the Air Border Order, which will create a specific infringement offence for non-compliance and allow Customs Officers to issue infringement notices.

Agencies continue to work on arrangements for one-way QFT travel from Niue, and have provided advice to SWC on one-way QFT from Tonga, Samoa and Vanuatu.

5.1.2 Mandatory Vaccination for Border Workers – Phase 2

Considerable interagency work has been undertaken this week to ensure that agencies are ready to support the remainder of the border sector (mostly private employees) to be vaccinated.

5.1.3 Border Executive Board meeting

Air New Zealand has been invited to attend part of the Border Executive Board meeting on 8 July. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] from the airline's Digital Innovation & Strategy team will be presenting the findings of Air New Zealand's trial of the IATA travel pass.

Also, on the agenda is an update on the Travel Health Pass and a discussion on integrated targeting and border operations. The latter is one of the 'systems improvements' that the Border Executive Board is charged with.

5.1.4 Finances – Supporting COVID-19 activity

The Border Executive Board has provided advice on anticipated additional costs of delivering assurance that passengers meet COVID-19 related requirements. This includes pre-departure checks of PDT documentation as well as on arrival and is based on a varying percentage of passengers' documentation being checked (50%, 75%, 100%).

In addition, on behalf of the Border Executive Board, Customs is leading advice on what initial funding will be required for the Travel Health Pass. This could include what else could be done to support COVID-19 border defences, eg ability of e-gates to ask questions / read PDT QR codes. This advice is based on the premise that funding will be sought from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund.

6. New Zealand Customs Service Weekly Report



6.1 Items to Note/Updates

6.1.1 Pre-Departure Testing

- For the period 28 June 2021 to 27 June 2021, there was one infringement issued:
 - A passenger arriving from Guatemala via the US was issued a warning, as there was no date of birth or passport number provided on their PDT documentation.

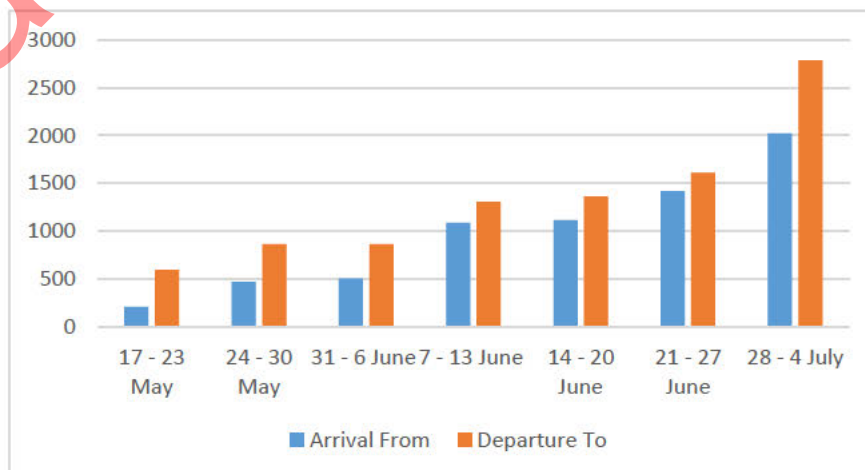
Passengers

	Date	28 June	29 June	30 June	1 July	2 July	3 July	4 July	Week Total	%
	Total Passengers	735	598	322	498	566	550	666	3935	
	Passengers subject to PDT	357	337	184	251	225	229	153	1736	44.1%
Primary Actions (Passport Control)	Test Certificate Verified	331	332	176	232	215	218	149	1653	95.3%
	Exemption Verified	8	2	1	3	10	11	2	37	2.1%
	Referred to Secondary Area	18	3	7	16	0	0	2	46	2.6%
Secondary Area Actions	Compliant	17	3	7	16	0	0	2	45	97.9%
	Warned	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%
	Infringement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Crew

	Date	28 June	29 June	30 June	1 July	2 July	3 July	4 July	Week Total	%
	Crew subject to PDT	81	60	63	60	57	68	7	399	
Primary Actions (Passport Control)	Test Certificate Verified	81	60	63	60	57	68	7	396	100%
	Exemption Verified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Referred to Secondary Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Secondary Area Actions	Compliant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Warned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infringement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

6.1.2 Passenger Numbers – Cook Islands



7. COVID-19 Chief Executives Board

7.1 Items to Note/Updates

The COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board met on 6 July. The Board discussed the Winter Resurgence Readiness Workshop that was held on 15 June, a progress update on COVID-19 reviews, and recommendations, and reflected on the recent response.

The next fortnightly meeting for the Board will take place on 20 July.

8. COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group

8.1 Items to Note/Updates

The COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group has not met this week. The next meeting is scheduled for 13 July. Following from Sir Brian Roche and Rob Fyfe's meeting with Christine Stevenson, Chief Executive of Customs, they, along with Philip Hill, have been invited to attend the Border Executive Board's Safe and Smart Border meeting on 13 July. Sir Brian Roche and the DPMC Secretariat have also met with your office on 6 July to discuss potential questions for you to commission the Group to address in their next phase of work. You are next meeting with the Group on 14 July.

The paper on the Group's review of the Auckland February 2021 outbreak response and their forward work programme went to Cabinet on 5 July and the review was proactively released on the Unite Against COVID-19 website on 8 July.

9. Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group

9.1 Items to Note/Updates

The meeting scheduled for 7 July for the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group was cancelled. The next fortnightly meeting for the Group will take place on 14 July, after which an update on the outcome of the meeting will be provided.

10. Business Leaders Forum

10.1 Items to Note/Updates

Kirk Hope, co-chair of the Business Leaders' Forum is engaging with the COVID-19 Group on the options to support businesses to encourage the use of contact tracing as part of the planned health behaviours campaign.

11. Government Modelling Group

11.1 Items to Note/Updates

There are no updates from the Government Modelling Group this week. Further updates are expected in next week's report after the next steering group meeting.

12. Upcoming Cabinet Papers

Title	Agency	Committee	Date Expected	Key Contact	Purpose of Paper
s9(2)(f)(iv)					

Proactively Released

13. Petitions

Petition	Topic	Input (written or oral submission)	Date required by select committee	ELT contact	Minister
Petition of s9(2)(a)	Petition asking the House to commit to distributing COVID-19 vaccines fairly.	Written	30 July 2021	Sarah Turner, Deputy Director-General, Office of the Director-General, 021 648 429	Hon Chris Hipkins

14. Appendix – Ministry of Health Weekly Updates on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) at the Border

	Audit summary	Audit high-risk findings, and actions taken to remedy	Incidents/Reviews	IPC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), operations frameworks and guidance documents
Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities (MIQFs)	IPC Audits of MIQFs ongoing. Completion date for IPC Audit 4 currently 9 July 2021. Scheduling audits has been hampered by facility maintenance closures. No high-risk findings from three Rotorua MIQF audits completed in the week of 21 to 25 June 2021.			
Airports	Quarterly Airport IPC Assurance Walk-through scheduled for July. Dates for these audits are dependent on International flight schedules. Proposed dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland 12 July (Red and QFTZ) • Wellington 13 July (QFTZ) • Rongotai 13 July (Red) • Christchurch 14 July (Red and QFTZ) • Queenstown 19 July August (QFTZ) 			The drafted version 1.3 for the IPC guidance for the air border for green and red zones was sent to stakeholders for consultation, with responses due on 30 June. Work is progressing on the Green and Red Zone Health Operations Framework.
Maritime/Ports	Planning continues for IPC assurance walk-throughs at Maritime Ports. Meeting to be scheduled to determine scope. Proposed date to visit to Nelson Marlborough Port third week of July 2021. Draft assurance walk-through audit tool completed. Awaiting IPC review.			No changes to the PPE – IPC document, which is currently posted on Maritime NZ’s website.

- ¹ Our World in Data. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations> - Accessed 06 July 2021
- ² Government of Canada. Vaccines for COVID-19. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/vaccines.html> - Access 05 July 2021
- ³ BBC News. Covid: Canada authorises Pfizer vaccine for children aged 12 to 15. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-57000354> - Accessed 05 July 2021
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