

# Coversheet

## **Support for Foreign Nationals in Hardship from 1 December 2020**

**Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment**

These documents have been proactively released.

*16 November 2020, Cabinet paper – Support for Foreign Nationals in Hardship from 1 December 2020, including Appendix One: Further information on the current Assistance for Foreign Nationals Impacted by COVID-19 Programme.*

*16 November 2020, Cabinet Minute CAB-20-MIN-0476, Cabinet Office.*

This Cabinet paper sought Cabinet agreement to continue to provide financial support to foreign nationals who are in hardship in New Zealand through the provision of Emergency Benefit via the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) from 1 December 2020, following the end of the Assistance for Foreign Nationals Impacted by COVID-19 Programme on 30 November 2020.

The Cabinet Minute of Decision confirmed agreement to provide financial support to foreign nationals through the Emergency Benefit via the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), from 1 December 2020 following the end of the Programme on 30 November 2020.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. This is the key to the redaction codes used for this release:

- Section 6(a) – to avoid prejudice to the security, defence, or international relations of New Zealand
- Section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons
- Section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to protect the confidentiality of advice under active consideration
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion
- Section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- Section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the supplier of the information
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i) - to maintain an obligation of confidence as this information was provided by a third party.

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