



BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 06 May 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT), Peter Mersi (MoT), Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Cheryl Barnes (DPMC)

In attendance: {Brent Johnston (MoT), Nigel Clifford (Maritime), Mike Hill (CAA)} – Item 3, {Sue Gordon (MoH), Darryl Carpenter (MoH)} – Item 4, Michael Papesch (Customs), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB)

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. The minutes from the meeting of 22 April 2021 were taken to be an accurate record.

Item 3: COVID-19 vaccination requirements for the broader border sector

3. MoT (with CAA and Maritime in attendance) provided an overview of advice about expanding mandatory vaccination requirements to additional private and public sector workers who perform specified work at the border. During discussion, the Board noted that it was a complex topic; if the addition of further groups was conceived as layers in an onion, the public health risk decreased with distance from the core.
4. The Secretary of Transport noted the potential for operational disruption, including the worst case of a port closure, if certain workers were included in a mandatory order.
5. MBIE noted the redeployment of some unvaccinated Managed Isolation and Quarantine workers still posed challenges, including some requiring urgent resolution.
6. The Board **requested** that the briefing be re-organised, with a tighter front section and clearer recommendations that focus on the key policy decisions being sought. The Board agreed that the fundamental options were largely extant; these should start with a small(er) group of workers and then extend. It was important to make the implications, along with the complexity and variability of the workforce clearer.
7. **Action:** MoT to work with MoH (in consultation with other agencies) to reorganise the 'COVID-19 vaccination requirements at the border (Tranche 2 advice)' paper with a tighter

front section and clearer recommendations that focus on the key policy decisions being sought.

8. The redrafted paper was expected to be submitted to Ministers by Tuesday 11 May 2021.
9. The Board acknowledged the long hours that had been put in by Brent Johnston and other officials to draft the paper.

Item 4: Border Workforce Testing Register (BWTR)

10. MoH provided an update on the status and functionality of the BWTR, which includes the monitoring and reporting of the testing and vaccination records of all border workers. A substantial body of work has been undertaken across agencies to implement the mandatory use of the BWTR for all affected PCBUs (Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking).
11. MoH reported that phased implementation was planned, with onboarding of PCBUs underway and PCBUs now able to view status for most workers, with manual workarounds for remainder.
12. DG Health invited feedback from agencies using the BWTR. MoH reiterated the need for organisations to provide quality data in the format prescribed by the BWTR system requirements.
13. MoH noted that a Border Testing Governance Group (Customs, Transport, WorkSafe, MBIE, MPI, DPMC, Maritime NZ and Health) had been established to oversee the BWTR implementation and a Testing Compliance Operational (working) Group was in place (with initial membership of WorkSafe, MBIE and Health, and other agencies to be included).
14. MoH raised the question on how best to provide ongoing reporting of BWTR results and progress to Ministers and the Board. The Board **agreed** it was appropriate to bring plans and issues to the BEB until the BWTR system and implementation had stabilised.
15. Board members raised a number of questions about the current functionality of the BWTR and discussed potential issues such as inability to download data and the implications of features such as staff alerts that did not take into account the 48-hour lag between a test being taken and being shown in the BWTR. Various reasons for this delay were noted and discussed with an agreement to find reasonable solutions and workarounds to help smoothen the PCBU and staff experiences of the BWTR system.
16. **Action:** Agencies to provide BWTR usability feedback to MoH to enable the resolution of system usability issues and improve staff experience in further BWTR system iterations.
17. Acknowledging that the system was unlikely to function perfectly by 14 May 2021, Board members agreed it would be beneficial to have any key variances (such as system workarounds and data challenges) documented clearly for Ministers so that their immediate expectations from the BWTR system are realistic and positive.
18. MoH noted it would come back to BEB with a full implementation plan for all forms of testing (including the soon-to-be introduced saliva testing) for border workers.
19. **Action:** MoH to come back to BEB with a full BWTR implementation plan for all forms of testing (including the soon-to-be introduced saliva testing).

Item 5: Advice on future Quarantine Free Travel (air and maritime)

20. Agencies are working on two separate pieces of advice

- a. Maritime quarantine free travel (commercial, cruise and small craft) – lead is MoH. This is expected to be discussed at the 13 May BEB meeting.
- b. An expansion of QFT into the Pacific and beyond - led by DPMC's COVID-19 Group.

21. Board members discussed the need to keep an eye on shifting arrangements in Australia and in the Pacific, given the dynamically evolving COVID-19 situation around the world.

Item 6: QFT rapid review

22. The Chair noted she had commissioned a light-touch review of the QFT arrangements to date.

Item 7: Other issues and priorities

23. MoH thanked Customs and other border agencies for the work being done to manage and provide advice to inbound QFT travellers impacted by the latest community case in Australia.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 13 May 2021

Held at Customhouse, Harbour Quays, Hinemoa Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Catriona Robinson (MBIE) for Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT), Peter Mersi (MoT), Vince Arbuckle (MPI) for Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Ray Smith (MPI)

In attendance: Cheryl Barnes (DPMC), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB), Bev Driscoll (MoT) – Item 3, {Annie Hindle (MoH), Stuart Beresford (MoH)} – Item 4, {Ruth Fairhall (DPMC), Griere Cox (DPMC)} – Item 5,

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. The minutes from the meeting of 06 May 2021 were taken to be an accurate record.

Item 3: Travel Health Pass work programme update

3. MoT gave an overview of the latest developments in the Travel Health Pass programme, noting that the programme was being scoped to ensure feasibility while still connecting with relevant pieces of work that would inform and the impact the design of the programme.
4. The Interagency Working Group leading the Travel Health Pass programme had established a technical group, facilitated by Customs, to operationalise policies, and consider business and functional requirements, legal requirements, and the benefits and costs of various related approaches. The Interagency Working Group was to continue to work as the clearing house for key policy and operational issues.
5. The Chair raised the question of funding and resourcing arrangements that would be required to support the work and suggested these should be prioritised as soon as programme scoping was complete.
6. Members also discussed the importance of correlating the work with international standards being developed in the vaccine certification space (such as by IATA, WHO and countries such as Singapore) and keeping closely informed and connected with relevant initiatives.

7. In their next report back to BEB, MoT **agreed** to provide an overview of the various components of their work, including who was leading which parts.
8. The Board also suggested the Travel Health Pass overview be shared with the COVID-19 CE's Board to assure them that border agencies are progressing with gap analyses related to safe and efficient passenger travel facilitation and are keeping abreast of the dynamic vaccine standardisation situation.
9. **Action:** MoT to share the Travel Health Pass overview documentation with the COVID CE's Board.
10. The Board thanked MoT and other agency colleagues for their continued efforts.

Item 4: Maritime Quarantine-Free Travel (QFT)

s9(2)(f)(iv) OIA, s9(2)(g)(i) OIA

[Redacted text block containing multiple paragraphs of information, all obscured by black bars.]

Item 5: Reconnecting with the world – Pacific and broader QFT

17. DPMC noted that the Prime Minister was keen to take a strong lead on the reconnecting with the world programme.
18. s 6(a) OIA [Redacted text block]
19. s 6(a) OIA [Redacted text block]

20. Board members noted the need to be alert to implications if a QFT partner opened up to additional countries.

Item 6: Other issues and priorities

21. MoT and MoH noted the rework of the 'COVID-19 vaccination requirements at the border (Tranche 2 advice)' paper for Minister Hipkins. Agencies are awaiting decisions from Ministers.

22. **Action:** BEB Secretariat to send the Venter Aviation Review Report to all members ahead of the imminent proactive public release of the report.

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BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 27 May 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT), Karl Simpson (MoT) for Peter Mersi (MoT), Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Peter Mersi (MoT)

In attendance: Bryre Patchell (Customs) – Item 3, Darryl Carpenter (MoH) – Item 4, Cheryl Barnes (DPMC), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB)

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. The minutes from the meeting of 13 May 2021 were taken to be an accurate record.
3. The following BEB actions were closed: #06 & #10 (MoH IPC assurance plan of international airports and seaports progressing well); #32 (MoT shared Travel Health Pass documentation with COVID CE Board); #33 (Updated Maritime QFT briefing paper delivered to Minister's office); #34 (Venter Aviation Review Report sent to BEB members ahead of the imminent proactive public release).

Item 3: Digital border programme

4. Customs (in association with MPI and MBIE) gave an overview of the Digital Border Programme, noting active collaboration between the three agencies (key components being digital declaration, RTT scanning and passenger risk assessment)
5. BEB **agreed** to the establishment of a Digital Borders Steering Committee as described in the Terms of Reference and Programme Brief, noting that Penny Nelson (MPI) was the overall project sponsor and that she would be working closely with Bill Perry (NZCS). BEB reinforced the importance of minimising duplication between the work streams, and of the use of applying sound project management practices.
6. **Action:** MoT to involve senior officials from AVSEC and CAA in upcoming work related to the Digital Border Programme.
7. **Action:** The Digital Border Steering Committee to report back to the Border Executive Board by 30 September 2021 with an estimated cost and work programmes to enable a decision on long term funding.

Item 4: Border Workforce Testing Register (BWTR) update

8. MoH provided an overview of the current state of the Border Workforce Testing Register (BWTR), highlighting recent upgrades to improve the usability of the BWTR system and their continued efforts to work collectively with agencies and users to resolve data gathering and cleansing issues, with the aim to achieve increasing compliance with testing requirements.
9. BEB asked to receive the BWTR dashboard on a weekly basis, accompanied by a brief one-page memo that provided an additional layer of analysis to highlight compliance issues and key risks and concerns for that week.
10. The Chair noted that it will be beneficial for BEB and agencies to be able to access both Vaccination- as well as Testing- related data.
11. s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA
[REDACTED]
12. MoH highlighted proposals to 'age off' some data due to the progression of time, in order that inaccuracies related to the previous baseline (shown by the red line on the BWTR dashboard) could be cleansed out.
13. Board members raised some questions about the implementation of upcoming saliva testing and stressed the need for governance over the operationalisation of this additional layer of testing at the border (including aspects such as the frequency of testing, monitoring processes etc).
14. The Board expressed a strong desire for this additional layer of testing to be integrated with the current nasopharyngeal testing requirements being monitored and reported on the BWTR. MoH has a current action to revert to BEB with a full BWTR implementation plan for all forms of testing (including saliva testing).

Item 5: Other issues and priorities

a. **Timeframe extension for Venter reviews:** The Board:

- i. **endorsed** that the final report for Phase One of the Rapid Review of Border Worker Testing (MIQ) will be delivered by 14 June 2021 instead of the original date of 24 May 2021
- ii. **noted** that the date for Phase Two of the Rapid Review of Border Worker Testing will be confirmed when Phase One is complete (no change to original intent)
- iii. **endorsed** an extension to the deliverable dates for the Review of Border Measures Tranche 2 – Maritime (currently a draft report 8 June 2021 and final report 30 June 2021), noting new dates are pending.

b. **BEB administrative delegations:** The Board:

- i. **agreed** that the Border Executive Board delegate the power to enter into contracts on behalf of the Board to the Chair of the Board
- ii. **agreed** that the Border Executive Board will delegate administrative tasks and functions to the Chief Executive of its servicing department, the New Zealand Customs Service
- iii. **agreed** that as part of the delegation proposed in 2.2, the Chief Executive of the New Zealand Customs Service may sub-delegate financial and

people and capability delegations in accordance with the hierarchies set out in Customs delegation policies

- iv. **noted** formal delegation instruments, and further advice, will be provided in the near future for approval.
- c. **Nomination for PSC awards:** The Board **agreed** to endorse the submission of the Spirit of Service Awards entry, noting some minor changes in the language of the submission. The Board agreed that the submission for this award recognised the tremendous efforts of the team of 25,000 border, transport and health sector workers who have carried the load to keep NZ safe, and many of who have continued to work at Alert Level 4, putting themselves at risk for other New Zealanders.
- d. **BEB minutes requested by Audit NZ:** The Chair informed members of Audit NZ's request for BEB meeting minutes, noting the request was made as part of regular Customs audit processes.
- e. **Border vaccination second doses:** The Chair noted that some proportion of the border workforce (MIQ, in particular) were still awaiting their second dose of vaccination before 5 June.
- f. **Expansion of border worker mandatory vaccination:** Members discussed the proposed expansion of the vaccination order, noting that a draft paper was expected to be ready on Tuesday, with advice due with Vaccination Ministers by Thursday (3 June). **s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 03 June 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Peter Mersi (MoT), Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Chris Seed (MFAT),

In attendance: Jamie Bamford (Customs) – Item 3, {Bev Driscoll (MoT), Matt Black (Customs)} – Item 4, Karl Simpson (MoT), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB)

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. The minutes from the meeting of 27 May 2021 were taken to be an accurate record.
3. The following BEB actions were closed: #19 (Updated BEB work programme presented as part of the Systems Improvements programme overview update); #35 (MoT has included senior officials from AVSEC and CAA in the Digital Border and other Systems Improvement programmes); #36 (Report back from the Digital Border programme has been added to the BEB forward agenda).

Item 3: Systems Improvements – Programme update

4. Jamie Bamford (as the lead of the Systems Improvements programme) gave an overview of the structure of the work programme and showed how the work under the Systems Improvement pillar fitted into the BEB's overall work programme.
5. Draft diagrams were presented to depict the key components of the work, who from various agencies was expected to oversee/lead each component (at both DCE and project levels), and what the indicative high level delivery schedule of this work looked like.
6. The intent of the Systems Improvements programme was to provide BEB members with sector visibility around how the programme was shaping up, optimise coordination efforts across agencies, and minimise duplication of work across some of the related work streams.
7. **Action:** As per BEB feedback, Customs to include Maritime NZ in the Systems Improvements coordination DCEs group.
8. MoH noted that the future-focussed systems work was timely in preparation for an ongoing health presence at the border and in continuing to maintain our elimination status even after we reopen our border. The Health System Reform potentially provided opportunities.

9. Members discussed the importance of leveraging existing systems and developing data interlinkages to maximise the use of investment that has already been made.
10. The Chair expressed her appreciation for the representation from all agencies on this work programme, which she acknowledged was over and above their existing work commitments and pressures.

Item 4: Travel Health Pass update

11. MoT (in association with Customs and other BEB agencies) provided an update of progress being made on the Travel Health Pass programme of work, noting that the work now included outbound as well as inbound travel, and was connected and aligned with related concurrent developments such as the national vaccination rollout and with the standard-setting work of authorities such as the IATA and other international bodies.
12. The Chair highlighted the importance of working closely with Air New Zealand to build early understanding of expectations, noting the airline was scheduled to come and talk to the Board about this in early July.
13. s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA [REDACTED]
14. The Chair thanked the Travel Health Pass team for their work. The team will provide to regular reports back to the Board.

Item 5: COVID-19 end-to-end risk and assurance framework

15. Sarah Holland presented a draft COVID-19 risk and assurance framework for BEB, noting that while officials from all BEB agencies had been involved in developing the framework, the details of the framework needed to be further tested and refined.
16. The Board **agreed** to the COVID risk and assurance framework, noting that this will be developed as part of an iterative improvement process.
17. Members directed that the scope of BEB's accountabilities be further developed. The shared and individual accountabilities needed to be better understood and clarified, and it was important to have clear boundaries in the Board's mandate (what they were and were not responsible for).
18. They also commented on how some of the risks previously identified had turned into issues, and how this may need to be reflected in an issues and risks register.

Item 6: Implementation of recommendations from COVID-19 aviation review

19. Sarah Holland provided a summary of the progress to date on the recommendations from the "Review of COVID-19 Border Measures – Tranche One (Aviation)," seeking BEB's guidance on a draft risk framework.
20. Members commented on elements of the risk analysis, noting some elements were outside the sphere of BEB's influence and hence would need to be considered out of BEB's scope.
21. Member suggested that a reduction in the details and clear correlation with the BEB essential mandate will make the framework easier to monitor and review.

22. s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA

23. **Action:** The BEB asked MoT to organise a future session on what is reasonable to expect an airline to do in relation to New Zealand's COVID-19 risk.

Item 7: Pre-departure testing assurance

24. The BEB accepted the "Effectiveness of pre-departure testing" report from MoH as assurance that adequately robust processes and procedures were in place to check pre-departure test documents, and that MoH was continuing to work with other agencies to improve access to data on departure country and access routes.

Item 8: Other issues and priorities

25. The Chair commented on the Border Workforce Testing Register (BWTR) report received by members that day, noting it was a useful ongoing status indicator.

26. Further advice on expanding the Vaccinations Order, specifically in relation to workers who handle affected items, was due to be finalised that day.

27. **Action:** MoH to recommend updated Vaccination Order comes into effect 'x' weeks from the date the amended Order is gazetted (rather than a set date, such as 30 September).

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BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 10 June 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Megan Main (MBIE) for Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Peter Mersi (MoT), Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT)

In attendance: Sue Gordon (MoH), Cheryl Barnes (DPMC), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB), Wendy Venter (Venter Consulting Ltd) – Item 3, {Danny Tsai (MoT), Nicholas Baldwin (Customs)} – Item 4

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. The minutes from the meeting of 03 June 2021 were taken to be an accurate record.
3. The following BEB actions were closed: #39 (Updated Vaccination Order has been recommended to come into effect 'x' weeks from the date the amended Order is gazetted).

Item 3: Draft report of the rapid review of border worker testing (MIQ phase)

4. Wendy Venter gave an overview of her key findings from the first phase (MIQ) of her rapid review of border worker testing arrangements, noting that the focus of the review was to assess the sufficiency of current and planned arrangements and provide recommendations on what could be further improved.
5. This review covered the first phase of the review which focused on testing arrangements at Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities (MIQF).
6. Sue Gordon (MoH) noted that the review provided a useful narrative, highlighting the transition from voluntary to mandatory requirements in the border testing regime, and the governance arrangements that had been required to facilitate that transition. Sue also noted minor feedback on stressing the importance of providing good quality testing data.
7. Megan Main (MBIE-MIQ) agreed on the usefulness of the review, noting the need to highlight the complexity of the situation that existed at the time of review, and the need to denote owners for specific recommendations from the review.
8. Members discussed the longer-term role of the Border Workforce Testing Register (BWTR) system in light of the changing context of testing requirements, noting the need


for compliance monitoring as well as helping people comply with the dynamic requirements.

9. **Action:** BEB feedback, including the nomination of owners for specific recommendations, to be incorporated into the final report of the rapid review of border worker testing.

Item 4: Financial Sustainability – Updated passenger volume scenarios

10. MoT and Customs (in association with MPI, MBIE, and Treasury) provided an overview of updated passenger volume scenarios, based on the QFT (Quarantine Free Travel) commencement in April 2021.
11. The BEB **agreed** that the ‘moderate’ scenario should be used as the basis for performance and planning activities of border and transport agencies and invited officials to report back in six months’ time with updated scenarios.
12. Members noted that the cruise scenarios remained largely unchanged, while the cargo scenarios appeared to be more optimistic than was expected to remain in the near future.
13. **Action:** The scenarios modelling team to confirm the cargo scenarios after gathering additional data to inform those predictions.

s 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA



Item 6: Other issues and priorities

16. The Chair noted health and safety concerns with five near misses recently recorded at a regional port. Communication efforts had been initiated to address these concerns with Port authorities.
17. The Chair announced the appointment of Fiona McKissock as the permanent BEB Executive Director. Fiona was expected to start in her new role in a month’s time.

Extension of the Vaccinations Order

18. Members discussed challenges in supporting the implementation of the proposed expansion of the Vaccinations Order. These included understanding what additional work could only be completed by a vaccinated worker and the need to work closely with private sector organisations.
19. The Chair summarised the work streams underway. BEB emphasised the importance of engagement and communications, including with unions and PCBUs. It identified that work would need to be undertaken on the exceptions and exemptions process and recommended that the amended Order included a review date. The BEB recognised the need to appoint an overall coordinator and noted that Public Service Commission had been asked to help identify a suitable person.



BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 17 June 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Sue Gordon (MoH) for Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Megan Main (MBIE) for Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Karl Simpson (MoT) for Peter Mersi (MoT), David Wansbrough (MPI) for Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT), Ray Smith (MPI)

In attendance: Cheryl Barnes (DPMC), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB), {Erin Polaczuk (PSA), Tracy Klenner (PSA), Charlie Busby (PSC)} – Item 3, {Catriona Robinson (MBIE), Siobhan Halepennington (Customs)} – Item 4

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed the BEB members and invitees to the meeting, and the room went through a round of introductions for the benefit of the PSA attendees.

Item 2: Minutes and action items

2. Postponed to next meeting.

s 9(2)(j) OIA

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Item 4: Systems Improvement – Data Sharing and Privacy work stream

7. Papers from the Data Sharing and Privacy project team (MBIE and Customs) were taken as read. Members discussed the need to allocate the right project resourcing to ensure that planned initiatives would advance with minimal impediments.
8. The Board discussed the role of MIQ in light of its existing intermediate Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with other agencies and agreed that MIQ should nevertheless be included in scope for the establishment of foundational mechanisms that will ensure integrated systems and effective information sharing across the border system.
9. The project team noted their intent to work closely with the Systems Improvements DCEs group to ensure that the right resourcing (including Policy and Legal capability) was allocated to this workstream.
10. **Action:** The Data Sharing and Privacy project team to involve Maritime NZ and Avsec in consultation related to further progress on the work stream.

Item 5: Update on COVID-19 vaccine certificate

11. MoH provided an oral update on work underway to generate and provide authoritative vaccination evidence for people in NZ who had received the COVID-19 vaccine. The first version of this was likely to be in the form of a signed letter from MoH, s 9(2)(f)(v)

OIA

Item 6: Rapid review of QFT implementation for Australia

12. The rapid review report on QFT implementation for Australia was taken as read; this looked at pauses prior to the most recent, Melbourne one.
13. Members discussed the challenges in adapting, resourcing, and implementing the “pause” processes related to the evolving situation in Australia. s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA
14. MoH noted that continuing to add more layers of assurance increased complexity and thus risk.
15. **Action:** The QFT Senior Officials Group to translate the recommendations into specific and implementable actions, with an owner allocated against each.

Item 7: Other issues and priorities

16. The BEB noted that work was required to clarify how border worker testing and vaccination should be best governed, and that data governance should be considered too.
17. **Action:** The Border Testing Governance Group to clarify how border worker testing and vaccination data governance should be best governed by BEB.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES

3pm – 4pm, Thursday, 08 July 2021

Held at MPI, Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street

Present: Christine Stevenson (Chair, NZ Customs), Ashley Bloomfield (MoH), Rose King (MBIE) for Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), David Taylor (MFAT) for Chris Seed (MFAT), Peter Mersi (MoT), Penny Nelson (MPI) for Ray Smith (MPI)

Apologies: Carolyn Tremain (MBIE), Chris Seed (MFAT), Ray Smith (MPI)

In attendance: Brook Barrington (DPMC), Cheryl Barnes (DPMC), Sarah Holland (BEB), Sonia Mani (BEB), {David Morgan (Air NZ), Helen Littlewood (Air NZ), Cath O'Brien (Air NZ)} – Item 2, {Bev Driscoll (MoT), Mat Black (Customs)} – Item 3, {Dana McDonald (Customs), Peter Elms (MBIE)} – Item 5

Item 1: Welcome, apologies, meeting context

1. The Chair welcomed the BEB members and invitees to the meeting, and the room went through a round of introductions for the benefit of the Air New Zealand attendees.

Item 2: IATA travel pass - Air New Zealand trial

2. David and Helen from Air NZ gave an overview of the trials that Air NZ is currently running with IATA on the 'Health Wallet' or the IATA Travel Pass. They outlined key data, technical issues, and limitations noted in the first trial, **s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA**
[REDACTED]
3. The IATA solution presented a one-point entry into connecting with the world, with opportunities to build on a common architecture and a combined view of passenger requirements. MoT and Customs, as the lead agencies on the government's Travel Health Pass, noted that the IATA solution in its current state met only a part of the government's regulatory travel health verification requirements. The government team would remain engaged and provide feedback on further trials of the IATA Travel Pass, with a view to maximise the inter-operability between the different systems.
4. **s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA**
[REDACTED] A digital solution would help mitigate some risks including those associated with staff needing to keep abreast of complex requirements.

5. s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA
■ [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED]
6. The Chair noted that the 'health pass' solution also needed to be operable across the NZ maritime domain. It would need to be adaptable and scalable to changing environmental and regulatory requirements, such as variations in available testing and vaccination regimes.
7. MFAT noted the importance of keeping abreast of and aligning with standards being developed and trialled in other parts of the world, such as in the European Union (EU).
8. Board members discussed the complexity of the interface between public and private sector systems, and the ambiguity around standards and requirements. They agreed that in light of this, work would need to develop gradually and incrementally, by starting with the potential launch of a digital arrival solution and building further exception-handling capabilities on top of that.
9. The Chair thanked Air NZ for their presentation and invited them to stay connected with the BEB on future developments in the IATA Travel Pass.

Item 3: Travel Health Pass and COVID-19 vaccine certificate – advice to Min Hipkins

10. Papers from the Travel Health Pass team (MoT and Customs) were taken as read.
11. Members discussed the need to ensure that adequate back office and contact centre support was built into the implementation of proposed solutions.
12. MFAT discussed the importance of keeping in touch with international counterparts s 6(a) OIA [REDACTED] to ensure that planned initiatives can be aligned and progressed with minimal impediments.
13. MoT noted it will consolidate each of the workstream's proposed resource requirements and report back to BEB on 22 July 2021.
14. The Board noted that Customs would take over programme management from MoT and Customs will underwrite the cost of a programme manager over the short term whilst working on funding options with Treasury.
15. The Board **agreed** to the proposed Travel Health Pass Work Programme structure.
16. The Board **endorsed** the contents of the report back to Ministers on Travel Health Pass, which is due to Minister Hipkins in mid-July.
17. Members complimented the Travel Health Pass paper as a useful encapsulation of the policy issues required to support the future development of this work.

Item 4: Reconnecting New Zealanders – public service, airports and airlines

18. The Chair noted that further discussion on the IATA travel pass and the Government's Travel Health Pass was expected to take place between agencies and aviation industry leaders at the 'Safe and smart border: Reconnecting New Zealanders' hui on 13 July 2021.

Item 5: Systems Improvements - Integrated targeting and border operations

19. Customs and MBIE provided an update on the 'Integrated targeting and border operations' project. It was noted that the project's proposed initial focus was on: taking steps to enhance the resilience and relevance of the Integrated Targeting and Operations Centre (ITOC) by updating its governance structure; extending the ITOC targeting service to better support 24/7 operations; bringing in MoH and AVSEC interests; s 6(c) OIA

s 9(2)(j) OIA

Item 7: Minutes and action items

23. The minutes from the meetings of 10 June 2021 and 17 June 2021 were taken to be accurate records.

24. The following BEB actions were closed:

- a. #37 (Maritime NZ has been included in the Systems Improvements coordination DCEs group);
- b. #38 (A session on airline accountabilities in relation to New Zealand's COVID-19 risk is scheduled on the BEB forward agenda);
- c. #40 (BEB feedback incorporated into the final report of the rapid review of border worker testing);
- d. #41 (Scenarios modelling team has reviewed additional data and confirmed the 'moderate' cargo scenarios with MPI and Customs CEs);
- e. #42 (Maritime NZ and AVSEC have been included in future consultation related to the Data Sharing and Privacy work stream);
- f. #43 (The QFT Senior Officials Group has translated the QFT rapid review recommendations into specific and implementable actions with an owner allocated against each).