

## AIDE MEMOIRE

WorkSafe's approach to COVID-19 vaccinations for its own workers

<b>Date:</b>	29 September 2021	<b>Tracker #:</b>	21/00830
<b>Security:</b>	In Confidence		

## ACTION SOUGHT

Minister	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Michael Wood <b>Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety</b>	<b>Note</b> the attached information	N/A

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Position	Telephone		Contact
Rhys Beddow	Manager- Health, Safety & Wellbeing	DDI	Cell: 9(2)(a)	✓
Catherine Epps	Exec Lead COVID-19	DDI	Cell: 9(2)(a)	-

## CONSULTATION

N/A

## Minister's Comments:

**WORKSAFE**

Mahi Haumaru Aotearoa

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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WorkSafe NZ has been asked to provide a briefing on the vaccination rates of its frontline workers.

### **WORKSAFE'S APPROACH AND PHILOSOPHY ON VACCINATING OUR WORKERS**

1. WorkSafe is not subject to the border environment requirements, meaning our workers did not feature in priority groups 1 or 2.
2. WorkSafe has advocated and encouraged our people to be vaccinated. We have adopted the Public Service Commission's guidance around paid time off to attend appointments and special paid leave for those who feel ill from side effects.
3. Internal risk assessments to date have established that our approach during Alert Levels 4 and 3 (while there is known community transmission) is sufficient to not 'require' vaccinations as a safety critical control. This will likely change if/when public health measures are dropped and the borders re-open.

### **THE PERCENTAGE OF OUR FRONTLINE STAFF WHO ARE VACCINATED AT PRESENT**

4. WorkSafe have no grounds to require workers to inform us of their vaccination status, although we have set up a voluntary register for workers to inform us. Actual vaccination rates may be higher.
5. WorkSafe's total headcount is approximately 700. As at 27 September 2021:
  - a 330 workers (47%) have informed us that they have received their first dose.
  - b Of those 330, 175 workers (25% of total headcount) have informed us that they have also received their second dose.
6. These figures are for all workers. Due to the way we capture vaccination status, we have not captured whether they are deemed 'frontline' or not.
7. At a recent all-staff webinar we asked attendees, anonymously through a poll, what their vaccination status was. Of the 365 responders, 98% indicated that they were either fully, partially or booked in to be vaccinated.