



23 February 2021

OC210123

Hon Michael Wood
Minister of Transport

**MEETING WITH ROBERT COURTS MP, UK PARLIAMENTARY
UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORT**

Snapshot

Minister Courts requested a meeting with you to:

1. discuss how the UK and NZ can cooperate on international testing standards and vaccine certificates to help reopen international travel

[Redacted]

Not in scope

[Redacted]

Withheld under section 6(b)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982

Time and date	7.45am, 25 February 2021
Venue	Via TEAMS
Other Attendees	<p><i>UK</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Office and Private Secretary to Robert Courts MP <p><i>Officials</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Director: International Aviation Travel • Senior Policy lead: Aviation Restart & Recovery • Senior Policy lead: International Aviation <p><i>NZ officials</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirstie Hewlett, Deputy Chief Executive, Regulatory and Data • Melanee Beatson, Principal Adviser, Ministry of Transport • Joanna Pohatu, Principal Adviser, Ministry of Transport • Sarah MacIndoe, Senior Policy Adviser, New Zealand High Commission London
Agenda	No agenda has been provided. We expect it to be a free-flowing discussion around the two topics proposed.

IN CONFIDENCE

Attachment

FORMAL MESSAGE: COVID-19 VACCINES/BORDERS
INTERSECT: INITIAL UK VIEWS ON VACCINE CERTIFICATION
AND GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS FOR COVID-SAFE TRAVEL,
London, 26 January 2021

Contacts

Name	Telephone	First contact
Bev Driscoll, Manager Regulatory Policy	[REDACTED]	✓
Ewan Delany, Manager, Environment, Emissions & Adaptation	[REDACTED]	
Joanna Pohatu, Principal Adviser, Environment, Emissions & Adaptation	[REDACTED]	
Melanee Beatson, Principal Adviser, Regulatory Policy	[REDACTED]	

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Key points

- We expect Minister Courts will be interested in a general overview from your ministerial perspective of New Zealand's Elimination Strategy; how the Government is managing the border; our current COVID-19 status, particularly following the most recent outbreak; and our vaccine roll-out.

Traveller health passes/vaccine certificates and international travel

- [REDACTED]
- We recently provided advice to you on Government agency work on the concept of health certificates [OC210035 refers] and developing an "end-to-end" work programme. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council is likely to be a key focus for international standards. [REDACTED] we are keen build our relationships in this area and welcome the opportunity to engage with the UK. [REDACTED]

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Withheld under section 6(a) of the Official Information Act 1982

Not in scope

Traveller health certificate/vaccine certificates and international travel

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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1 Traveller health pass/vaccine certificates are set to become a core international focus in 2021, as vaccines are rolled out and countries seek to relax their border settings once the science shows that it is safe to do so.

2 By nature, these issues are – and future solutions will be – embedded in an international system. International standards and will be critical for Governments to have confidence in traveller information, as will the development of technical solutions that are globally interoperable. New Zealand will need to understand the standards being developed internationally, seek to influence where required, and ensure we can align with international standards and not be “left behind”.

3 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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4 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The proposed objectives of our work on traveller health certificates are to:

5.1 “Keep it out” (Elimination Strategy)

5.2 Progressively open our borders, through letting in more people MIQ-free

- when the health science indicates it is safe to do so, and
- the Government is comfortable with the level of risk and associated health measures, and

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IN CONFIDENCE

- recognising that international connectivity remains fundamental to the economic and social wellbeing of New Zealanders and NZ's recovery

5.3 Enable people to travel from NZ to other jurisdictions. We expect traveller health passes to become an enduring legacy.

6 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Agencies agree that relevant initiatives underway in the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) should be our priority.

7 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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10

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] While New Zealand will be a technology “taker”, we need to understand how they would apply in our context, and how they interact with Government policy settings.

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11

Two digital industry based solutions that have gained attention are:

11.1 the International Air Transport Association’s (IATA) Travel Pass app, which is driven by airlines internationally. This week, Air New Zealand announced it would trial the Travel Pass app on its Auckland-Sydney route in April

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11.2 The CommonPass app by the Commons Project, a non-profit public trust backed by the World Economic Forum and RockeFeller Foundation.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

Not in scope