

5 August 2021 OC210644

Hon Chris Hipkins

Action required by:

Minister for COVID-19 Response

Monday, 9 August 2021

# EVIDENCE REQUIRED OF PCBUS IN APPLYING FOR A SUPPLY CHAIN EXEMPTION

## **Purpose**

1. This briefing outlines the legal risk of a new question that PCBUs would be asked to answer when applying for a 'supply chain' exemption under the Covid-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 (the Order). This briefing suggests alternative wording for your agreement, which we consider will not alter the main intent of the question, \$9(2)(h) OIA

### Key points

- On 3 August 2021, we received a signed briefing from you (MoT Ref: OC210606/BEB Ref: 21/038), in which you agreed to the list of evidence we would seek from PCBUs when applying for the supply chain exemption.
- You had added one more question: s9(2)(g)(j) OIA
- s9(2)(h) OIA
- s9(2)(h) OIA
- We have also received advice from the Ministry of Health that the term "suitably qualified health practitioner" should also be used, in line with the Required Testing Order and Vaccinations Order.
- As such, the wording we seek your agreement to is "Has the worker been briefed on the vaccine by a suitably qualified health practitioner". If you agree, this will be reflected in the documents we publish online for PCBUs and workers on Monday 9 August 2021.
- We consider this wording still achieves the intent of the original new question s9(2)(h)

Name First contact

R

10.00

:= UE

## EVIDENCE REQUIRED OF PCBUS IN APPLYING FOR A SUPPLY CHAIN EXEMPTION

You have agreed to the process PCBUs will follow when applying for a supply chain exemption

- On 3 August 2021, you, as the Minister for Covid-19 Response signed a paper from the Border Executive Board, agreeing to the questions that should be asked of PCBUs when they apply for an exemption under clause 12A of the Order (MoT Ref: OC210606/BEB Ref: 21/038). These questions are set against the matters the Minister must take into account under clause 12A, namely
  - 1.1 The potential for significant supply chain disruption if the work carried out by a particular person does not occur, clause 12A(5)(a)
  - 1.2 the extent to which the work is necessary, clause 12A(5)(b)
  - 1.3 the public health risk associated with the work, clause 12A(5)(c).

You asked for an additional question to be added as evidence for PCBUs to provide

2	In signing the paper, you asked that another question be added \$9(2)(g)(i) OIA		
	s9(2)(g)(i) OIA		
	s9(2)(g)(i) OIA		
3	s9(2)(g)(i) OIA		
	s9(2)(g)(i) OIA		
	s9(2)(h) OIA		
4			
s9(2)(I	h) OIA		
_			
5	s9(2)(g)(ii) OIA		
6	s9(2)(h) OIA		
	59(2)(II) OIA		
7	20/2\/h\ OIA		
1	s9(2)(h) OIA		

#### UNCLASSIFIED

s9(2)(h	n) OIA	•	
8	s9(2)(h) OIA		
9	s9(2)(h) OIA		
10	s9(2)(h) OIA		

### We are suggesting alternative wording

2010250

- Given the above advice, we propose that only the first half of the question is included in the documents that support the supply chain exemption process.
- We have also received advice from the Ministry of Health that the term "suitably qualified health practitioner" should be used in the question, \$9(2)(g)(i) OIA

  This is consistent with the Required Testing Order and Vaccinations Order.
- We consider the recommended new wording still achieves the intent of the original question (2)(h) OIA
- 14 As such, the revised wording we seek your agreement to is:

s9(2)(g)(i) OIA	Recommended revised question
s9(2)(g)(i) OIA	"Has the worker been briefed on the vaccine by a suitably qualified health practitioner?"

15 If you agree, this will be reflected in the documents we publish online for PCBUs and workers on Monday, 9 August 2021.