

# Proactive Release

Date: 30 April 2020

The following Cabinet Minute has been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

***Oral Item: Border Measures: Antarctica***

***(CAB-20-MIN-0123 refers)***

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.

Key to redaction codes:

- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments.

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# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

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### **Report of the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 Response: Period Ended 20 March 2020**

On 23 March 2020, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 Response for the period ended 20 March 2020:

CVD-20-MIN-0017    **Oral Item: Border Measures: Antarctica**  
Portfolio: Foreign Affairs

CONFIRMED



# Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 Response

## Minute of Decision

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### Oral Item: Border Measures: Antarctica

**Portfolio**                      **Foreign Affairs**

On 18 March 2020, the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 Response, acting in accordance with its Power to Act:

- 1        **noted** that a flight from McMurdo Station and Scott Base, Antarctica, to Christchurch to New Zealand had been scheduled to arrive on the evening of 18 March 2020 but was delayed 24 hours because of weather;
- 2        **noted** that the Ministry of Health has advised that the 120 passengers returning on this flight on 19 March 2020 do not pose a significant risk to public health (given they have been based in Antarctica for longer than two weeks);
- 3        **agreed** that all passengers on this flight who intend only to transit New Zealand, and intend to leave New Zealand within 48 hours of arrival, take measures to self-isolate while in transit but be exempt from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days in New Zealand;
- 4        **agreed** that all passengers on this flight who intend to stay in New Zealand for longer than 48 hours be exempt from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days in New Zealand;
- 5        **directed** the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade provide further advice to Ministers on related issues concerning Antarctica travel.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Hard-copy distribution: (see over)**

**Present:**

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)  
Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Grant Robertson  
Hon Phil Twyford  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway  
Hon Jenny Salesa  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Shane Jones  
Hon James Shaw  
Hon Julie Anne Genter

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
State Services Commission  
Ministry of Health  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment  
Ministry of Education  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
Ministry of Social Development  
Ministry of Transport  
New Zealand Customs Service  
New Zealand Defence Force  
New Zealand Police

Proactively released by the  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Note: Accompanying paper  
withheld under s9(2)(g)(i)