



# COVID-19 Response Weekly Report

5 August 2021

Contents

1. Status Summary .....	3
2. COVID-19 Insights .....	8
2.1 Insights of Note Written by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet .....	8
2.2 Insights of Note Written by the Ministry of Health.....	11
3. Ministry of Health .....	12
3.1 Policy/Programme Updates .....	12
3.2 Technical Advisory Group: Update.....	14
3.3 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities.....	15
3.4 Upcoming Publication .....	15
4. Managed Isolation and Quarantine Weekly Report .....	16
4.1 Top Item to Note .....	16
4.2 Operational update.....	16
4.3 Large Group Arrivals Update.....	18
4.4 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities.....	19
4.5 Fees .....	19
4.6 Emergency Allocation Applications.....	20
4.7 Resolutions Update.....	21
5. Border Executive Board Report .....	22
5.1 Key Issues Being Considered .....	22
6. New Zealand Customs Service Weekly Report.....	24
6.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	24
7. COVID-19 Chief Executives Board .....	26
7.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	26
8. COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group .....	26
8.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	26
9. Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group .....	26
9.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	26
10. Business Leaders Forum .....	26
10.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	26
11. Community Panel.....	26
11.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	26
12. Government Modelling Group.....	27
12.1 Items to Note/Updates .....	27
13. Upcoming Cabinet Papers.....	28

## 1. Status Summary

Key		
Symbol	Colour	Meaning
●	Green	On track, no roadblocks, no significant delays anticipated
●	Amber	Slow progression, some delays, some roadblocks present
●	Red	Not progressing, on hold, significant delays

### Border

Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
MoH	●	●	<p><i>Border Worker Testing Register</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As at 4 August 2021, there were 248 Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) covering 12,936 active workers in the Border Worker Testing Register (BWTR). This is an increase in PCBUs of 176 per cent since the announcement to make use of the BWTR mandatory was made.</li> <li>Of those active workers, 5,855 were listed as working in MIQ facilities and 7,081 at the Air or Maritime borders.</li> <li>Of those border workers currently active in the BWTR on 4 August:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>85 percent have had two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>4 percent have had one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>The remaining 12 per cent represent workers in the BWTR that have not been vaccinated yet or have not been matched to their vaccination record due to the absence of NHI-matching in the CIR.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Saliva testing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministerial consultation on the draft amendment to the Required Testing Order (RTO) is underway and is expected to come into force on 11 August 2021.</li> <li>MoH has been carrying out a 'roadshow' to promote saliva testing to workers. Meetings have so far been held in Auckland, Wellington, Gisborne, Christchurch, Taranaki and Nelson.</li> <li>The saliva testing service provider, Asia Pacific Healthcare Group, is conducting site meetings to finalise arrangements for the location of drop-off and collection booths, saliva kit restocking arrangements, confirming courier schedules and other logistical arrangements.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All workers on a 7-day testing cycle are being invited in the week commencing 2 August to opt into saliva testing. Workers on a 14-day testing cycle are also being invited to opt into saliva testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Saliva testing is expected to be operationalised in the week commencing 9 August, at Auckland Airport, the Jet Park Quarantine Facility in Auckland and the Ports of Auckland as well as Northport, the Port of Opua, Chelsea Port, Devonport RNZ naval base, Kauri Point RNZ naval base in Birkenhead, Viaduct Marina, Silo Marina, Westhaven Marina, the Port of Tauranga and Lyttleton Port.</li> </ul>
MBIE	●	●	<p><i>Staff testing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compliance reporting is at 97%, (no change from last week), for staff who worked in the week of 26 July – 1 August 2021.</li> <li>3% of workers on site in the week of 26 July – 1 August 2021 are showing in the BWTR as overdue. The Workforce Testing and Vaccination team will be following up with those 152 workers.</li> <li>We have a specific piece of work underway to ensure those listed as 11+ days overdue are either tested or referred to the appropriate agency for management.</li> </ul> <p><i>Vaccinations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The BWTR shows, of the workforce on site for the week of 26 July – 1 August 2021, 96.2% have had two doses of the vaccine, 2% had one dose and 1.8% have vaccination status 'unknown'.</li> <li>Vaccination follow-ups for those with an 'unknown' status in the BWTR in the previous week identified one breach of the vaccination order. More information is in the report.</li> <li>There was one exception granted last week at the Distinction Hamilton for repairs to a leaking hot water cylinder in the roof.</li> </ul> <p><i>Saliva Testing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MIQ workers on a seven-day testing cycle at Jet Park Auckland will be invited to opt-into the saliva testing regime from mid-August.</li> <li>Saliva testing will be progressively rolled out to other MIQ facilities from late-August, anticipated through to October.</li> <li>The progressive roll out schedule takes into account the additional demand facilities are under with NSW returnees while being able to apply the learnings from the initial roll outs and enable uptake of the regime by MIQ workers.</li> <li>We are working closely with MOH around the operational implications of this new regime, including on our ongoing compliance rates, consistency with current testing arrangements and expected uptake.</li> </ul>
BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The baseline number, established as at 14 July, of active border workers at maritime ports and airports, who are in scope of the amended Order and on the BWTR, showed 1462 were unvaccinated. BWTR data extracted as at 8.00am, 4 August 2021, show this number is 1,222 (as compared to 1342 on 28 July); while fully vaccinated has increased to 3270 from 3210 at 21 July (as compared to 2785 on 14 July).</li> <li>The indicator remains at amber due to implementation issues and risks.</li> </ul>

Testing and vaccination of border workforce

**Border (Continued)**

	Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
Two-way QFT with Australia	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarantine-free travel from all Australian states and territories was suspended from 2359hrs Friday 23 July 2021. The suspension will be for at least 8 weeks and will be reviewed in September.</li> <li>On 29 July 2021, Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Acting Minister for COVID-19 Response agreed not to extend the time period for managed return flights (except NSW) as there was no evidence of unmet demand. As such, from 11.59pm Friday 30 July 2021 all returnees from Australia will be required to have a valid Managed Isolation Allocation System (MIAS) voucher before check-in and complete 14 days in MIQ on arrival in New Zealand.</li> <li>During the eight-week suspension period, MOH will provide input into any subsequent advice with regard to further legislative implications on the next steps of the suspension of QFT and any amendments that should be made prior to the recommencement of QFT. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet is leading this work.</li> </ul>
	BEB	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2290 passengers arrived from Australia to NZ on 30 July and 331 arrived on 31 July (these were two flights that departed Australia on Friday 30 July, but arrived in NZ on Saturday early morning and are therefore counted into 'arrivals on 31 July').</li> <li>As at 4pm on 4 August 2021, MBIE advises that a total of 926 Registrations of Interest (ROI) from people stranded in New South Wales and seeking to fly to New Zealand on a flight between 9-22 August have been processed, of which 351 were ineligible.</li> <li>The indicator will remain at amber until there is greater clarity around the number of people from New Zealand in New South Wales that wish to return.</li> </ul>
Two-way QFT Niue	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>s6(a)</li> </ul>
	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>s6(a) these discussions confirmed Niue is committed to a staged opening of its borders, s6(b)(i)</li> <li>Niue has also signalled its intention to require all in-bound passengers to be vaccinated.</li> <li>A Ministry of Health led technical mission is in Niue and will remain in-country from 27 July – 24 August, including two weeks' managed isolation in Niue on arrival.</li> </ul>
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 12 July 2021, Cabinet agreed that officials should start discussions with Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu on one-way quarantine-free travel (QFT), and to work towards this being operational from at least one of the three countries by 1 September 2021.</li> <li>Cross-Government meetings have commenced with all countries with a report back to the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee planned for 18 August.</li> <li>s6(b)(i)</li> </ul>
Reopening new travel pathways - Pacific Islands	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Samoan Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mata'afa has warmly accepted New Zealand's offer to commence discussions towards one-way QFT.</li> <li>With the Prime Minister having publicly announced these initiatives, officials continue to progress discussions on one-way quarantine free travel from Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu to New Zealand s6(a)</li> <li>NZ officials continue to meet with officials from these countries at both plenary and agency level, including on technical readiness in the health, border and aviation sectors.</li> <li>s6(a)</li> <li>Officials will report back on progress to the Minister for COVID-19 for the Oral item to Cabinet on 2 August and to the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee on 18 August.</li> </ul>
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarantine-free travel from all Australian states and territories was suspended from 2359hrs Friday 23 July 2021 due to the worsening situation in Australia. The suspension will be for at least 8 weeks and will be reviewed in September.</li> <li>On 22 July 2021, Minister Hipkins agreed to reclassify Indonesia as a Very High Risk (VHR) country.</li> </ul>
Country Risk Assessments	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarantine-free travel from all Australian states and territories was suspended from 2359hrs Friday 23 July 2021 due to the worsening situation in Australia. The suspension will be for at least 8 weeks and will be reviewed in September.</li> <li>On 22 July 2021, Minister Hipkins agreed to reclassify Indonesia as a Very High Risk (VHR) country.</li> </ul>



### Managed Isolation and Quarantine and Return to the Community

Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are looking to map the current control measures in place to mitigate in-MIF transmission to enable us to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess their impact on the system, including their impact on the workforce;</li> <li>Identify opportunities to adjust, modify, and strengthen existing mitigations;</li> <li>Identify opportunities to reduce inefficiencies and redundancies, to alleviate pressure of the workforce and support greater focus on the highest impact/priority mitigations; and</li> <li>Identify and address gaps in our suite of public health and IPC risk mitigation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The framework will not provide an assessment of the operating effectiveness of the controls but would form a basis for local and national assurance activity that would.</li> <li>Preventing in-MIQF transmission (transmission within MIQFs between those not in the same bubble) is key to the 'keep it out' pillar of the Elimination Strategy.</li> <li>The increasing transmissibility of the Delta variant also prompts the need to ensure our measures to prevent in-MIQF transmission are as strong as possible. As demonstrated in Australia, this new variant presents increased risk to the maintenance of our Elimination Strategy.</li> </ul>
			<p><i>Ventilation systems</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total number of remediation proposals received to date is 24 (last week it was 20). A number of facilities have already commenced remediation work in advance of submitting their formal remediation proposal.</li> <li>Remediation work at the Grand Mercure (Wellington) was delayed to accommodate the mariners. The Remediation work commenced on the revised start date of 2 August.</li> <li>Our independent HVAC engineer has reviewed and provided feedback on 16 of the remediation proposals received to date.</li> <li>The engineer is also analysing final test results received from facilities following the completion of their remediation for an entire wing or their entire facility (final test results), to validate that MIQ preferred conditions have been met. The test results from four facilities are currently being reviewed.</li> <li>A further three remediation proposals were reviewed by the MIQs Ventilation Remediation Advisory Group (VRAG) last week bringing the total number reviewed to date to 12. Two further proposal will be reviewed by VRAG this week.</li> <li>Regarding ventilation systems the status remains amber as we assess implications on the MIQ system of delivering the remediation works across the portfolio. Next steps, leading to green, will be looking across the whole portfolio to schedule the remedial work whilst balancing room capacity.</li> <li>1119 air filtration units have been deployed to lifts and corridors in 23 facilities to date (74% complete). Approximately 260 units will be installed in the remaining eight facilities once MoH have security the required funding.</li> </ul>
MBIE	●	●	<p><i>Renewing contracts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extended terms and conditions have been agreed with 22 facilities (same as last week).</li> <li>We now have signed the legal contract for 15 facilities (previously 13).</li> <li>We are continuing to work through getting the remainder of the execution copies issued.</li> <li>This indicator will remain amber while we finalise the extended terms and conditions with hotels.</li> <li>With the suspension of QFT with Australia working with retaining the Ramada for an additional 4 weeks should there still be a requirement to accept 501 deportees whilst the suspension is on.</li> </ul>
			<p><i>Fees collection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We continue to make progress with post 25 March 2021 invoices. As at 27 July 2021 automated invoices have been issued up to returnees leaving MIF on 19 July 2021 (i.e. within 7 working days) (please note invoices do not go out until returnees leave a MIF), while those invoices we have to manually produce have been issued up to 29 June 2021 (excluding exceptions and aircrew).</li> <li>The new invoicing platform has generated over 10,000 invoices, with a value of more than \$41m, in its first eight weeks of operation.</li> <li>We are currently investigating the impact of recent changes to the Australian travel bubble to ensure we invoice these returnees appropriately.</li> <li>We have developed a methodology for addressing the pre-25 March 2021 invoice backlog and work continues on building the solution. Testing of part of the solution has begun.</li> <li>An estimate of the liability of \$36.2m for the invoice backlog has been made for inclusion in the 2020/21 financial results. This estimate is subject to audit and may change prior to the financial statements being finalised.</li> </ul> <p><i>Debt Recovery</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of the 100 invoices worth \$332k sent to a debt collection agency, 28 responses have been received, \$48,875 has been paid (or will be paid through instalment), \$3,575 has been credited due to an error and a further \$42,425 is currently being disputed by customers.</li> <li>We plan to send the next group of invoices through to the debt collection agency at the end of this week (circa 30 July). The plan is to continue sending small batches weekly going forward.</li> <li>Recruitment is underway to fully resource this function.</li> <li>We are progressing a solution which allows returnees to settle their invoices by credit card to make it easier for them to pay.</li> <li>This indicator will remain amber while working through the backlog of invoices and while we make progress on debt recovery.</li> </ul>

### Managed Isolation and Quarantine and Return to the Community (Continued)

Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
PPE MBIE		●	<p><i>P2/N95 Implementation</i> This is the first update we have provided on this initiative as part of the weekly report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The initiative currently has a red status due to implementation of P2/N95 particulate respirators being delayed (against the timeline indicated in the original Ministerial briefing).</li> <li>A joint MoH and MIQ paper was submitted your office this week, providing an update on current progress, implementation risks and issues being worked through and the revised timelines for fit checking and fit testing.</li> <li>It is anticipated this initiative will move to amber in the next week, when assessed against the revised implementation timeline.</li> <li>Initial engagement sessions have been held with the impacted employer groups and unions – early feedback has highlighted a concern of staff retention if it is mandatory for all workers to wear a P2/N95 particulate respirator (especially in the security and hotel worker groups)</li> <li>Project team is currently drafting a consultation document to be issued to employers and unions in the near future.</li> <li>MoH is completing a zone assessment at each MIQF this week, which will determine the areas that will require the use of a P2/N95 particulate respirator by non-health workers.</li> <li>Following completion of the above zone assessment, MIQ will determine the full business impact assessment and develop processes for responding to workers who are unable to wear a successfully fit tested P2/N95 particulate respirator.</li> </ul>

### Community Protection

Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment
Case investigation, surveillance and testing MoH	●	●	<p><i>Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A revision of COVID-19 Testing Guidance has been published. The revised Testing Guidance states that at Alert Level 1 it is not necessary to routinely test children aged 11 or under who are symptomatic, unless any of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They meet Higher Index of Suspicion (HIS) criteria;</li> <li>They are a contact of a confirmed (or probable) COVID-19 case;</li> <li>There is clinical concern;</li> <li>Parental request;</li> <li>The Medical Officer of Health recommends this due to a local emerging outbreak.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### Vaccination

Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment on Status of Focus Area
Implementation and operation MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We continue to remain above our vaccination targets, with the most recent data showing that we are delivering at 103% against DHB plans as at 1 August 2021.</li> <li>10,388 vaccinators have completed vaccine training and 4,953 vaccinators have been active in the programme as of 3 August 2021. The milestone of 10,000 vaccinators completing vaccinator training was achieved last week. This has been a long-held objective of the Programme in order to meet the increased demand from the general population rollout.</li> <li>358,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine were delivered to New Zealand on 3 August 2021 as scheduled.</li> <li>Medsafe granted provisional approval for the AstraZeneca vaccine on 22 July 2021.</li> <li>Rollout to the first age band of Group 4 (those aged 60-64 year) began on 28 July 2021 alongside a targeted media campaign. Rollout to the next age band (55+) will commence from 6 August 2021.</li> <li>The workplace vaccination pilot at Mainfreight officially began on 3 August 2021, marking the start of the workplace vaccination model. A total of 257 workplaces submitted expressions of interest to host workplace vaccinations. Applications are currently being reviewed by the Ministry and DHBs.</li> <li>The first Mass Vaccination event took place from 30 July-1 August 2021 at Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau (South Auckland) and delivered 15,881 first doses. The event received positive media coverage and will now serve as an example of how mass vaccination events will work within a New Zealand context.</li> </ul>



### Resurgence Planning and Response

	Agency	Last Week	This Week	Agency Comment on Status of Focus Area
Resurgence planning including review	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an upcoming system planning workshop to optimise plans and approaches for delta and future variants. The workshop is planned for 9/10 August to report back to CCB on 17 August.</li> <li>The resurgence plan for Q4 is under development and will factor in the workshop outcomes.</li> </ul>
	MoH	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update to version 4 of resurgence plan has been completed, with amendments and process changes coming out of Delta variant working groups to be incorporated within the next 10 days.</li> </ul>
Readiness planning	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Readiness team are crafting a timeline for key readiness workstreams to coincide with CCB dates, in order to signal upcoming bodies of work to the CCB, and follow up with a summary of activities on completion. This will be available to the CCB for the 17 August meeting.</li> <li>Priority One for the Readiness team is a system-wide workshop on the Delta variant, co-designed by DPMC and MOH. The intent is for the workshop to occur on 10 August.</li> <li>Priority Two is to follow up on the HRB-led concurrent event workstream with emergency services, by casting a system-wide lens over the outcomes, and identifying high level trades offs and potential decisions.</li> </ul>
	MFAT	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visitor numbers to the Cook Islands are now at 72% of their pre-COVID totals.</li> </ul>
QFT response	DPMC	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Response has completed the managed returns through the Green zones from Australia.</li> <li>Phase 3 and 4 planning is underway for Red flights from NSW.</li> <li>Consular response and support is in place for any New Zealanders across the rest of Australia.</li> <li>The system continues to be under pressure.</li> </ul>
	MBIE	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressions of interest for Tranche 3 closed on 3 August 2021.</li> <li>The MBIE IMT concluded on Tuesday 4 August, with ongoing planning and support for Tranche 3 being delivered through BAU MIQ structures.</li> </ul>

## 2. COVID-19 Insights

### 2.1 Insights of Note Written by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

#### 2.1.1 Border Reopening Snapshot of Different Country's Approaches

##### Introduction

The Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group have been analysing various countries and their border reopening strategies. Some notable approaches are included below from countries at varying stages of reopening to non-essential travel such as tourism. The countries covered in this report include the United Kingdom, France, Israel, and Canada. This is intended as a snapshot, and further information is available if required, including economic impacts and changing case numbers after border restrictions were altered.

##### Points of Note

There are several approaches used in more than one country, as well as some notable approaches. These include:

- Restricting entry or adapting entry requirements of international arrivals who have not had a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Using a "Health Pass" system to limit peoples' access to venues if they have not had a COVID-19 vaccination or have not had a negative COVID-19 test, or proof of a previous infection.
- Obtaining details of international arrivals for use in cross border COVID-19 contact tracing such as Canada's 'ArriveCAN app', or the United Kingdom's 'Passenger Locator Form'.
- The United Kingdom and France are using a risk-based assessment of travellers linked to country of origin.
- Israel is delaying reopening in response to case numbers rising domestically and internationally.
- Some countries are linking vaccination efforts to border reopening (e.g. Canada's vaccination target for reopening).
- Most countries plan to utilise COVID-19 vaccine travel passes (noting there is not a single travel pass in use at the moment).

A summary of border measures by country, citizenship status, and vaccination status is included in Figure 1 at the end of this report.

##### United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, 56% of the population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 69% of the population has had at least one dose of a vaccine.<sup>1</sup>

Since April 2021, the United Kingdom has employed a 'traffic light' system to determine the restrictions placed on international arrivals, based on the risk of the country they are travelling from, which is reviewed every three weeks. The review of each country considers the number of cases, variants of concern, and the country's ability to test for variants.<sup>2</sup>

The requirements for international arrivals vary, depending on the traffic light rating of the country they have been in. They include things such as taking a pre-departure test (PDT), taking a COVID-19 test on arrival, staying in a quarantine hotel for up to 10 days, undertaking quarantine at home, and completing a 'Passenger Locator' form.<sup>3</sup> There is also a 'Test to Release' scheme, under which travellers in quarantine can pay for a COVID-19 test on day five, which, if negative, allows them to leave quarantine early, if their day two test was also negative.<sup>4</sup>

A Passenger Locator Form is required to be completed online before people travel to the United Kingdom. This requires personal details, address within the country, booking references for any COVID-19 tests in the United Kingdom, and invoice number for the quarantine hotel booking (if applicable). Passengers are then electronically sent a QR code. The QR code is required to be scanned at 'e-gates' upon arrival. The United



Kingdom has indicated that in the future they intend to integrate vaccination data into the form which will then be read electronically.<sup>5</sup>

### **France**

In France, 47% of the population are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 62% of the population have had at least one dose.<sup>6</sup>

Fully vaccinated travellers have been able to travel to France regardless of their country of origin since 17 July 2021, without restrictions. All vaccinated travellers must show proof of vaccination and present a sworn statement attesting to the absence of COVID-19 symptoms or contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to travel.<sup>7</sup>

France's border reopening strategy is partially based around a 'traffic light' rating of the risk of other countries.<sup>8</sup> The requirements for international arrivals vary depending on the risk of the country they have been in. They include things such as a PDT, or proof they have recovered from a previous infection,<sup>9</sup> a sworn statement that they will take a test upon arrival and isolate, and providing proof of home address or proper accommodation for isolation.<sup>10</sup>

People are also required to obtain a 'Health Pass' to enter large events and venues including bars, restaurants, museums and some public transport. To obtain a Health Pass, travellers must have a vaccination certificate, a negative PCR or antigen test from the previous 48 hours, or proof of a previous infection.<sup>11</sup>

### **Israel**

In Israel, 62% of the population have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 67% have had at least one dose of a vaccine.<sup>12</sup>

Requirements for international arrivals vary, and include things such as a PCR test,<sup>13</sup> an 'Entry Statement Form' detailing vaccinations or past infection status, providing details of an isolation address,<sup>14</sup> and isolation.<sup>15</sup>

Currently tourists are unable to travel to Israel. Originally Israel's government had planned to allow tourists vaccinated with a European Union or United States' approved vaccine into Israel from 1 July 2021, if they had a negative PCR test. People vaccinated with a different vaccine would have had to take the test on arrival. People who had recovered from COVID-19 would be allowed to enter subject to a serology test. Tourists from countries deemed high risk, and on their 'red list' would not have been able to enter.

This plan was delayed to 1 August 2021 after a rise in COVID-19 cases, attributed to the more infectious Delta variant.<sup>16</sup> The border reopening has been further delayed beyond 1 August, to an unspecified time, with the entry requirements for tourists yet to be finalised.<sup>17 18</sup>

Due to the ongoing increase in COVID-19 cases, Israel's formally abandoned 'Green Pass' system was also reinstated on 29 July. The Green Pass allows vaccinated people, or those with a negative PCR test, to enter events with 100 or more people, as well as use of amenities such as gyms and restaurants.<sup>19</sup> Those without the pass are unable to attend.

### **Canada**

In Canada, 59% of the population are fully vaccinated, and 71% of the population have had at least one dose of the vaccine.<sup>20</sup>

Entry to Canada is currently permitted only for Canadian citizens or residents, persons registered under Canada's Indian Act, protected persons, or foreign nationals who are deemed eligible. Entry requirements vary, and include things such as PDTs, tests on arrival, a quarantine plan, and staying for a period in a government approved hotel.<sup>21 22 23</sup>

Since 5 July 2021, Canada has begun a process of easing border restrictions, including allowing Canadians who have had COVID-19 vaccinations entry to the country without undergoing self-isolation.<sup>24</sup> On 9 August 2021, vaccinated United States citizens and residents will be allowed to enter Canada for non-essential travel.<sup>25</sup>

On 7 September 2021 all vaccinated travellers (from any country) will be allowed to enter Canada for all purposes including tourism and education purposes.<sup>26</sup> Canada will also eliminate the three-day hotel

quarantine component of the 14-day quarantine process for unvaccinated arrivals, with these travellers able to quarantine at home or in an appropriate location, assuming they have a quarantine plan in place.<sup>27</sup> All travellers will be required to take pre-departure tests. Tests upon arrival will be randomised.

Before boarding a flight to Canada, passengers must fill in their entry details on the 'ArriveCAN' app, including proof of vaccination, contact details, travel details, reference for quarantine hotel, previous countries visited in the 14 days prior to arrival, and their quarantine plan.<sup>28</sup>

Canada is currently developing a vaccine travel pass, which will be rolled out by November 2021, for Canadians travelling internationally, with a standardised approach across each of Canada's state and territorial health systems.<sup>29</sup>

Prime Minister Trudeau previously stated that Canada would not reopen its borders until at least 75% of its vaccine eligible population had received a single dose of the vaccine. The Canadian government noted that until 75% of its population has received both doses of the vaccine, border measures remain the most effective means of limiting the introduction and spread of the virus.<sup>30</sup>

**Summary of Border Measures By Country, Citizenship Status, and Vaccination Status**

Figure 1 below summarises the border measures in place in the countries described above. Each country is represented by a coloured circle. The columns show the border measures that are in place. The rows show citizenship/residency and vaccination status. Given the 'traffic light' systems in the United Kingdom and France which have different border measures for countries based on their risk category, red, amber or green, circles have been added to show which measures apply to arrivals in each situation.

**Figure 1: Summary of Border Measures by Country, Citizenship, and Vaccination Status**

	PDT		Test on Arrival		Isolate at Home or in a Hotel		Isolate in a Facility/Specific Hotel		Health Pass		Locator Form or Similar		Notes
Resident/Citizen - Vaccinated													- Note that as only UK citizens can enter the UK from "Red" countries no border measures are listed for foreign nationals entering the UK from "Red" countries.
Resident/Citizen - Unvaccinated													- Note that since only citizens/residents can enter Canada or Israel, except under very special circumstances, no border measures are listed for arrivals to these countries for foreign nationals.
Vaccinated Foreign National													
Unvaccinated Foreign National													

Thank you to the following teams that provide content for this report: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Diplomatic Post Network.

## 2.2 Insights of Note Written by the Ministry of Health

### 2.2.1 Variant Update

In Aotearoa New Zealand, Delta is the predominant variant identified in cases at our border in recent weeks, and it continues to become the dominant variant worldwide.

### 2.2.2 Delta Variant Update

The Ministry of Health COVID-19 Directorate continues to monitor new information on the variants.

There appears to be emerging evidence from England showing that infection rates in vaccinated healthcare workers are increasing.<sup>31</sup> The cause is unclear but contributing factors may include one or more of: reduction in vaccine protection over time ('waning immunity'); or the ability of Delta to overcome protection from the vaccines or from prior infection with another variant ('immune evasion').

A notable exception to the increased prevalence of Delta, can be found in some South American countries (Peru, Chile) where the Lambda variant ('C.37') has overtaken other circulating variants, including Alpha ('B.1.1.7') and Gamma ('P.1').<sup>32</sup>

Another 'version' of the Delta variant (known informally as 'Delta plus') contains a mutation that is potentially associated with reducing vaccine effectiveness or protection from prior infection (called 'K417N'). Fortunately, "Delta plus" does not appear to be increasing in prevalence: Public Health England (PHE) has reported a very small number of cases with "Delta plus".<sup>33</sup> Of note, data on this variant is generally not collected separately but included along with Delta in most countries.

It remains true that while there is extensive transmission around the world, the opportunity for new variants to emerge such as the Delta variant, continues to exist.

Epidemiological evidence, eg, the statistics on the number of people in a household of a person with COVID-19 who become infected, supports increased transmissibility. The basic reproductive number R0 for Delta is estimated to be at least 5.5-6.5 (possibly as high as 8) meaning that on average each person infects another 5-6 people.<sup>34 35</sup>

An outbreak study in Guangdong China indicated that Delta is associated with very high viral loads – 1000 times higher on the first PCR positive test compared with the previously dominant variant in that region -- and a shorter median incubation time of 4 days, compared to approximately 6 days for the prior variant.<sup>36</sup> PHE has also observed higher viral load on a population level for Delta compared, to other variants. There are also new reports suggesting that the viral loads are similar for unvaccinated and vaccinated COVID-19 cases, but only in the first few days of the infection.<sup>37</sup>

PHE data estimated that Delta is associated with over twice the risk of hospitalisation compared to Alpha.<sup>38</sup> Fortunately, PHE data indicates that the risk of death for a person with COVID-19 ('case fatality rate') for Delta remains low (0.2%).<sup>39</sup> Data reported for risk of death with Alpha varies: PHE's most recent case fatality rate for Alpha is approximately 1.8%, noting that this data is based on the wave from December 2020 when the healthcare system in England was facing a heavy burden from the pandemic.

Overall, it still appears to be that vaccine effectiveness is largely maintained against Delta. The Pfizer vaccine is effective in protecting against COVID-19 caused by Delta when two doses are given: PHE reported 33% protection after one dose, 88% protection after two doses against symptomatic infection.<sup>40</sup> Similar results have been reported in Denmark and Canada.<sup>41</sup> The Pfizer vaccine also offers protection against severe disease and hospital admission.<sup>42</sup>



## 3. Ministry of Health



### 3.1 Policy/Programme Updates

#### 3.1.1 COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme

As at 11.59 pm on 3 August 2021, 2,021,024 vaccinations have been delivered, including 769,708 people who are fully vaccinated. Of those fully vaccinated, nine percent are Māori, six percent are Pasifika, and 16 percent are Asian.

112,938 Māori have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, which represents nine percent of the total population who have received their first dose as at 20 July 2021.

295 sites were active as at 3 August 2021.

The production plan for the next seven days is for 284,069 doses across New Zealand.

From 1 August 2021 daily vaccination updates (weekday only) will begin to be published on the Ministry of Health's website. A weekly deep dive with additional content will continue to be provided.

#### **Group 4 rollout**

Invitations to the first cohort of Group 4 (those aged 60 to 64) began on 28 July 2021 with the Group 4 communications campaign beginning on 31 July 2021. Bookings for the second cohort of Group 4 (those aged 55) will be open from 6 August 2021.

#### **Book My Vaccine**

To coincide with the beginning of the Group 4 rollout, the new online national booking system - BookMyVaccine.nz was officially launched last week. The Vaccination Healthline (0800 28 29 26) was also officially opened and received more than 75,000 calls in the first five days.

As of 3 August 2021, Book My Vaccine holds 955,229 future bookings at 257 sites.

Additional vaccination sites will be onboarded to Book My Vaccine over the coming weeks to support the increased delivery of vaccinations in August and September 2021. The Ministry of Health is also working with DHBs to ensure that there is reserved capacity (i.e. not available to the general public) in booking streams to support timely access of vaccination to workers that will be covered under the extended border order.

#### **Supply**

The expected Pfizer delivery of 358,000 doses arrived on 3 August 2021 as planned. s9(2)(b)(ii)

On 29 July 2021 Medsafe granted provisional approval of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine for people 18 years and older. While the COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme remains focused on rolling out the Pfizer vaccine to everyone who wishes to be vaccinated, a third COVID-19 vaccine receiving provisional approval is welcome news.

#### **Workforce**

As at 3 August 2021, 10,388 vaccinators have completed COVID-19 vaccinator training and 4,953 vaccinators have actively vaccinated in the programme so far.

The first cohort of fully trained, assessed and authorised COVID-19 vaccinators commenced vaccinating in Gisborne on 27 July 2021.

#### **Workplace rollout**

The workplace vaccination pilot at Mainfreight officially began on 3 August 2021. Dry and wet runs with Fonterra are expected to start in early August 2021. The Warehouse and Fisher & Paykel Healthcare are now

being onboarded into the workplace vaccination models and will begin vaccinations in mid to late August 2021. An additional 250 expressions of interest by workplaces are being reviewed by the Ministry of Health and DHBs.

### **Equity**

There has been a slight increase in production plan vaccination volumes for Māori which are 60 percent as at 1 August 2021.

As at 26 July 2021, 41 percent of disability support services (DSS) clients in residential facilities, and 22 percent of DSS clients living in the community have received at least one dose. The Ministry of Health will initiate a weekly report from all DHBs on their DSS residential rollout, similar to the aged residential care monitoring.

The Disability Communications Fund contracts are currently being generated and will be sent to successful applicants in the first week of August 2021.

Nationally vaccination plans for Pacific people are on track, averaging out to 100 percent of plan. To increase the number of Pacific vaccinators, the Ministry of Health has collaborated with the Immunisation Advisory Centre to develop a one-day vaccinator training programme for Pacific nurses. The aim is to facilitate Pacific nurses in the Auckland region to become authorised COVID-19 vaccinators.

### **Adverse event following immunisation (AEFI)**

Work is underway at the request of the COVID-19 Vaccine Independent Safety Board (CV-ISMB) to understand whether we are seeing under-reporting across certain ethnic groups through the current passive surveillance system for monitoring adverse events. The implementation of active monitoring in early August 2021 will further support engagement with Māori and Pasifika.

### **Logistics and distribution**

As at the end of the day on 3 August 2021, we have made 1,547 deliveries to sites across the country. This equates to delivery of 372,704 vials or 2,236,224 doses.

### **Mandatory vaccination of healthcare workers**

The Ministry of Health is developing advice on maximising vaccination uptake of healthcare workers. A range of options is being considered beginning with improving our information about immunisation rates among healthcare workers and setting targets, to more stringent measures requiring particular groups of healthcare workers to be vaccinated.

### **Border Worker Vaccination Order**

Planning with DHBs is well underway to support vaccination of border workers subject to the expanded Vaccination Order. DHBs have proactively engaged with their regional border sites to come up with a suitable, targeted and local approach to vaccination. All DHBs have reserved capacity set in their booking schedules to manage priority vaccination needs.

### **Port worker vaccinations**

Recent events of maritime vessels arriving at New Zealand ports with infected crew members underline the heightened risk our port workers face. The Ministry of Health continues to visit ports around New Zealand to discuss the amended Vaccinations Order and the introduction of the option for regular saliva testing for border workers. Recent vaccination rates across the port sector show steady improvement since the amended Vaccinations Order was announced on 12 July 2021.

### **Mass vaccination events**

The first mass vaccination event took place in Auckland between 30 July to 1 August 2021 and administered 15,881 first doses to the South Auckland community. The event received positive media coverage and will serve as an example of how mass vaccination events will work within a New Zealand context.

## Rollout of the vaccine to Polynesia

### *Tokelau*

The vaccine rollout is on track in Tokelau. Tokelau completed first dose vaccinations of its eligible adult population on 23 July 2021. To date, approximately 99 percent of the eligible population has received their first dose. Vaccination rollout is due to be completed by mid-August 2021.

### *Cook Islands*

Vaccine rollout is on track in the Cook Islands, with at least 90 percent of the eligible population now fully vaccinated. The Cook Islands vaccine rollout is expected to conclude in August 2021.

### *Fiji*

New Zealand is facilitating the resale of 100,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine from Spain for Fiji. It is anticipated these doses will be delivered by 4 August 2021. s9(2)(g)(i)

Fiji officials have made an initial request to New Zealand for an unspecified quantity of Pfizer to vaccinate their 12 to 17-year-old age cohorts. New Zealand officials are working through this request.

### *Samoa*

The Ministry of Health is waiting on advice from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on how to re-engage with Samoan health officials on its vaccine rollout. Discussions will be around the possible donation of Pfizer vaccine for its 12 to 17-year-old cohorts.

### *Other Polynesian Countries*

s6(b)(i) Tonga, and s6(b)(i) confirmed their request from New Zealand for their necessary doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine and these are likely to be delivered via COVAX.

## 3.2 Technical Advisory Group: Update

The COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group (CVTAG) met on 27 July 2021 and discussed:

- advice and recommendations about the risk of myocarditis with the Pfizer vaccine
- decision to use Pfizer for 12 to 15-year olds
- children priority groups.

CVTAG's next meeting is on 3 September 2021, and an update will be provided in a future Weekly Report.

The COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) did not meet in week beginning 26 July 2021. CTAG's next meeting is scheduled for 20 August 2021, and an update will be provided in a future Weekly Report.



### 3.3 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

As at 2 August 2021

Date	Activity	Lead agency	Comms material	Ministerial Involvement
02 Aug 21	NZ COVID Tracer Release 8 – rollout underway progressively this week.	Ministry of Health	Messaging for media release, web content	No
02 Aug 21	QFT talks are underway with additional Pacific nations, one-way. Eligibility criteria to be confirmed.	PMO	Talking points	TBC
04 Aug 21	Saliva testing national rollout: invitation goes out to all border workers in aviation and maritime sectors to participate in saliva testing. The Required Testing Order is on track to come into force on 11 August 2021.	Ministry of Health /MBIE	Targeted comms to PCBUs, collateral, website	No
w/c 02 Aug 21	Quarantine free travel: managed return flights ceased on 30 July 2021. Anyone returning from Australia now has to enter managed isolation for 14 days. Recent returnees from Queensland are being asked to monitor for symptoms due to an outbreak in the state.	Ministry of Health / DPMC	Press release, media interviews, web content	Optional
02 Aug 21	Crew from the Mattina vessel continue to be monitored.	Customs / Ministry of Health	PR updates, health advice	Optional
02 Aug 21 ongoing	Health advice and Locations of interest (S70s) updates for New Zealand travellers in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.	Ministry of Health	Web content	No

### 3.4 Upcoming Publication

Title	Date	Context	ELT contact
COVID-19 Outbreak Response Toolkit for Aged Residential Care (ARC)	End of August 2021	This Toolkit supports ARC providers to prepare, respond to, and review an outbreak of COVID-19 in their facility.	Clare Perry, Deputy Director-General, Health System Improvement and Innovation, 027 278 4106

## 4. Managed Isolation and Quarantine Weekly Report

### 4.1 Top Item to Note

#### 4.1.1 QFT Travel Pause and NSW Outbreak

We are continuing to focus on the NSW response and planning for how we bring Australia back into MIAS.

Registrations of interest (ROI) for the next tranche of managed return flights are now closed. As at 09.30 August 4 a total of 930 ROIs have been processed, of which 582 were eligible. The eligible ROIs that have been processed equate to a total of 844 people requiring approximately 680 rooms.

On 4 August 2021 we provided you with advice on the demand for NSW phase three managed returns. You have agreed [NSW-011 refers] that MBIE will be able to access the additional 300 rooms to fully meet phase three demand. This means that both travellers with urgent or exceptional needs, and those who are eligible but with less urgent reasons for return, will be supported by phase three.

You also agreed that up to 30 of the unallocated phase three rooms could be accessed for consular cases to support travellers in NSW and other Australian States and Territories that have been identified by MFAT as urgently needing to travel. The remainder of the 300 rooms (i.e. those not required for phase three and consular cases) will be released onto MIAS for access by others seeking to return to New Zealand.

Calls to the AOG Contact Centre continued to trend downward last week with 98 calls accepted on 1 August (80 to the QFT line and 18 to the Consular line) with an average wait time of around 1 minute and an average talk time of just under 4 minutes. The majority of calls are now regarding the criteria for returning from NSW on the Tranche 3 flights. People are also seeking longer-term advice on travelling after the 8-week pause is over.

We will be providing you with advice next week on the matter of the rest of Australia's return to red flights.

### 4.2 Operational update

#### 4.2.1 Capacity update

As at 1pm, 4 August, 2021, there is currently no availability on MIAS.

- As at 4 August, a total of 30,391 rooms since early March have been released for the period of June through to the end of November 2021.
- From early March to present, 105,562 returnees have secured a date to return home during the period of March through to the end of November 2021.
- Returnees from over 180 countries have successfully secured a voucher to travel during this period.
- In a short trial on Tuesday 3 August, MIQ released two lots of 20 rooms for two different dates in October. These were all claimed within minutes.
- We know that there is significant demand for places in MIQ. From 1-7 June 2021, there was an average of 5,569 unique users on the site every day. For the last 7 days there was an average of 19,194 unique users on the site every day.

#### 4.2.2 Vaccination of frontline staff update

For workers on site for the week 26 July – 1 August 2021, BWTR shows 96.2% had two doses of the vaccine, 2% had one dose and the remaining 1.8% (81 workers) had vaccine status 'unknown'.

Of the 81 workers with an 'unknown' vaccination status, 52 still require an NHI match. The Workforce Testing team is investigating the remaining 29 workers to confirm vaccination status.

Vaccination assurance follow-ups for those with an 'unknown' status in BWTR in the previous week identified one instance of a MIQ worker in an MIQF who was in breach of the vaccination order.

It appears the worker had one dose of the vaccine but was outside the 35 day window and should have had their second dose to be on site. They were incorrectly allowed on site a total of four times (on 22, 23, 24 July, and 1 August) with the incorrect vaccination status.

Our vaccine assurance processes primarily focus on people with unknown vaccination status in BWTR (particularly those who are NHI-matched and should theoretically have vaccine data showing in BWTR). This is based on the fact that someone coming on site with no doses whatsoever would be the higher public health risk. The main way to identify these types of workers is security officers on site checking vaccination cards and employers making sure workers are only sent to work with the correct vaccination credentials.

It appears the worker had been scheduled for a second vaccination but did not attend following DHB advice as she was unwell. However, her employer was not made aware of this situation and she was not aware of the 35 day rule so she was inadvertently rostered on under the assumption she was compliant with the Order.

The employer now has a calendar alert for workers close to their 35-day date to avoid this situation in the future and security on site will be reminded to check vaccine cards carefully.

Of the 52 workers who were NHI-matched that are showing vaccination status 'unknown' in the 19-25 July 2021 Weekly report:

- 37 have been confirmed as compliant with the vaccine order;
- 12 are compliant but have been passed to MOH for investigation as potential NHI issues;
- 1 worker has been contacted and we are awaiting a response; and
- 2 are exceptions under Section 9(4) of the Vaccination Order (paramedics).

#### 4.2.3 Staff testing update – compliance statistics for 19 July – 1 August 2021

Reporting from BWTR shows that 4,495 people undertook work in our facilities last week and the table below shows how many of those workers were compliant with the Testing Order, overdue for a test or still need to be NHI-matched

Workers on site 26 –1 August 2021	Total	Percentage of total NHI-matched workers on site
Compliant NHI-matched workers	4,291	97%
Overdue NHI-matched workers	152	3%
Need NHI-match	52	
Workers on site	4,495	

Of the 152 overdue, 85 of those are less than 4 days overdue, 45 are 4-10 days overdue and 22 are 11+ days overdue. The Workforce Testing and Vaccination team will be following up with these workers to make sure they get tested as required.

Of the 52 that still need an NHI-match, 26 were created in BWTR in the last 7 days.

19 workers were previously reported as '11+ days overdue' in the report for the week 19-25 July 2021. We have confirmed 10 of them have been swabbed, two others are compliant but have been referred to MOH due to a possible NHI-matching issue, five have been instructed to be swabbed, one has been contacted and we are awaiting a response and one has been escalated to MOH due to ongoing compliance issues.

If we look at our total 'active' workers in the BWTR, the number of workers who are 11+ days overdue is steadily decreasing. Last week (28 July) reporting showed 469 workers in this category, this has further reduced by 135 to 334 this week.

#### 4.2.4 Ombudsman update

A follow up meeting to last week's meeting with the Ombudsman is being planned for 23 August.



The Ombudsman announced that inspections at facilities will be unannounced from August 2021, the resolutions team have provided guidance to the RIQs to support this new approach to inspections.

Work remains underway to support further conversations between OPCAT and health specialists regarding the inspectors PPE use.

MIQ provided its response to the provisional reports for the Distinction Hamilton and Jet Park Hamilton on 29 July.

#### 4.2.5 Business Continuity

An All of Government exercise is taking place on 11 August to test multiple scenarios for a MIQF outage. The outcome will be a robust National Contingency plan that will be tested with the RIQCC's.

### 4.3 Large Group Arrivals Update

We are working through the implications of the recent RSE and QFT announcements, including how to manage this, ensure our stakeholders are kept informed and the additional implications this has for the MIQ system of potentially managing additional groups. A briefing on these matters will be provided to you by 6 August 2021.

Summary of approved group arrivals as at 4 August 2021

Group	Date of Arrival	Allocation Approved	Final number of rooms allocated	Comments
RSE	7 Aug 2021 Jul 2021	150	116 (149 pax)	The second cohort of 149 RSE workers depart on 7 August 2021. 150 RSE workers are confirmed for flight three. Working through the implications of decision to potentially not stop RSEs from 1 September, in addition to mariners and the significant number of groups arriving in the next few months. Note that this has significant ramifications for the Pasifika Trust who are providing wellbeing services for RSE workers. .
	24 Aug 2021	150	116	
Construction Accord	Aug 2021	60	15 (19 pax)	Construction Accord did not take up the allocation in June or July.
	Sep 2021	60	TBC	
Netball – English Roses	27 Aug 2021	30	25 (TBC)	This will be the first sports team under the new full cost recovery model. Planning has begun. An off-site SMIF (Sports managed isolation facility) for off-site training has been sourced and IPC assessment is underway.  Challenges have arisen now that QFT with Australia has been paused as some of the team were expected to arrive from Australia. These complexities are being explored to further understand the group requirements and the impact of the QFT pause.  Discussions are underway with Netball New Zealand and the Ministry of Health regarding the exemption to train while in MIQ given the change in travel details for the team.
Refugees – Intake 2	30 Jul 2021	21	11 (21 pax)	Cancellations and replacements have resulted in the total pax for this intake adjusting to 107 pax. The three unaccompanied minors will have their legal guardians join them in managed isolation.
	5 Aug 2021	37	20 (37 pax)	
	6 Aug 2021	15	10 (15 pax)	
	7 Aug 2021	9	5 (9 pax)	
	13 Aug 2021	5	3 (5 pax)	
	27 Aug 2021	17	9 (17 pax)	
	TBC	3	3 (3 pax)	
Returning Olympic Athletes (3 cohorts)	2 Aug 2021	~184	163 (168 pax)	Cohort One arrived on 2 August.
	8 Aug 2021	~170	112 (113 pax)	
	10 Aug 2021	~170	146 (148 pax)	
Paralympic athletes	Sep 2021	100	5	Athletes and management returning from the Paralympics in Tokyo as multiple smaller groups, with the majority of MIQ secured via MIAS. Detailed planning is underway to ensure those with increased needs are well cared for in MIQ, this includes those who have booked MIAS vouchers in the public system. Discussion regarding the inbound travellers and their additional luggage requirements is underway.
Antarctic Programme	17 Sep	200	200	
	18 Sep	39	39	

	21 Sep	1	1	These arrivals are for the combined US Antarctic Programme (USAP) as well as the Italian, French, German and Korean programme.
	27 Sep	145	145	
	28 Sep	145	145	
	4 Oct	46	46	
	6 Oct	17	17	
	9 Oct	10	10	
	10 Oct	10	10	
	11 Oct	202	202	
	18 Oct	42	42	
	25 Oct	20	20	
	29 Oct	3	3	

#### 4.3.1 Time Sensitive Travel

Time Sensitive Travel (TST) applications for September and October 2021 arrivals closed on 14 July 2021. Seventy-five applications requesting allocations for 182 people (of these 29 are family members) were received. We approved 99 allocations (125 people, including 26 family) and declined one allocation (two people including family). A further 14 allocations (14 people) were provisionally approved pending the obtainment of a valid visa. 41 allocations (41 people) were closed prior to reaching the decision making stage due to not meeting the TST criteria.

#### 4.4 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

As at 5 August 2021

Date	Activity	Lead Agency	Comms Material	Ministerial Involvement Y/N
11, 15, 29 July 2021	Decision on three Managed Isolation Walks implemented	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
22 July 2021	Mariners in Christchurch from Mattina	MoH/MIQ	Reactive communications	N
Late-July (TBC) 2021	OPCAT report on MIQ by the Ombudsman	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
July – August 2021	N95 Masks into MIQ	MIQ/MoH	Internal communications and engagement	N
July – October 2021	800 Antarctica workforce	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
2 August 2021	Start of 485 Olympians returning via MIQ	MIQ	Reactive communications	N
4 August 2021	Select Committee hearing	MoH/MIQ	Reactive communications	Y
Mid-August 2021	Saliva testing available to border workers	MoH/MIQ/Customs	Reactive communications	
August (TBC) 2021	Rapid Review of Border Worker Testing – Phase One (report for BEB)	BEB	Proactive communications	N

#### 4.5 Fees

##### 4.5.1 Invoicing

The table below shows the number of invoices issued up to 1 August 2021.

Invoices have various repayment terms depending on whether they are a sports group (10 days), critical worker (30 days) or standard returnee/maritime crew/aircrew (90 days). \$5m in payments received for the week is due to receipting being delayed due to the financial year end the previous week.

Invoices issued for the week ending 1st of August have been offset by a focus on issuing credit notes relating to waivers that had been previously approved. This resulted in a reduction of net invoices issued for the week



of \$500k. The raising of credit notes has also impacted the categorisation of the number of net invoices issued/paid and associated values.

Grouping	Invoices issued (net of credit notes)	Paid	Issued not due	Issued overdue	Invoices issued (\$)	Paid (\$)	Issued not due (\$)	Issued overdue (\$)	90+ days overdue	90+ days overdue (\$)
<b>Groups<sup>1</sup></b>	505	74	426	5	\$18,218,554	14,697,698	3,245,050	275,806	0	\$0
<b>Maritime</b>	371	254	94	23	\$1,760,542	\$1,174,520	\$534,329	\$51,693	14	\$31,764
<b>Aircrew</b>	204	143	3	58	\$1,088,205	\$817,153	\$15,057	\$255,995	4	\$53,197
<b>Other</b>	23,184	11,439	8,924	2,821	\$84,978,119	\$42,764,780	\$33,181,771	\$9,031,568	1,134	\$3,748,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,264</b>	<b>11,910</b>	<b>9,447</b>	<b>2,907</b>	<b>\$106,045,419</b>	<b>\$59,454,151</b>	<b>\$36,976,207</b>	<b>\$9,615,062</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>\$3,833,682</b>

<sup>1</sup>Please note that this previously only included large groups. However, going forward, this now includes critical workers and critical health workers.

Note: The '90+ days Overdue' column represents the number of invoices from the 'Issued overdue' column that have been outstanding for 90+ day.

#### 4.5.2 Weekly Average Invoicing and Debt Recovery %

The table below reflects the weekly average of invoicing from 11 August 2020.

Recent Weeks	Average invoicing per week (\$)
Past week	3,630,941
2-4 weeks	5,269,670
5-8 weeks	5,455,702
9+ weeks	1,370,026

#### 4.5.3 Waivers

The table below breaks down the waiver application information between 11 August 2020 and 18 July 2021.

Waiver applications received	In progress	Total completed	Total financial hardship applications	Total special circumstances applications	Approved waiver applications		Declined waiver applications	
					Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances	Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances
8642	2197	6445	831	5614	87	4806	744	808

#### 4.6 Emergency Allocation Applications

4068 applications have been processed since 30 October 2020.

385 applications were received in the week ending 01 August 2021 and 217 applications were processed.

From the applications processed in the week ending 01 August 2021, 52% of the applications were approved.

Emergency Allocation Applications	Weekly Totals 26 July-2021 to 01 August 2021	Year to Date Totals 30 Oct 2020 to 01 Aug 2021
Approved	113	2224
Declined	104	1844
Applications processed	217	4068

\* These figures only include completed applications, with all supporting evidence, which were received within the required timeframes, which have been decided by a decision marker.

Total Rooms Approved Under Emergency Allocation	121
Rooms Allocated in MIAS	110
Cancelled by the applicant	0
Awaiting flight details or MIAS registrations from the applicants to complete the room allocation process	11

#### 4.7 Resolutions Update

Data from the Complaints and Feedback Customer Management System for the week 27 July to 2 August 2021 is as follows:

Week 27 Jul 2021 – 2 August	Received	Active Cases	Resolved
Complaints	284	45	263
Improvements	2	0	2
Compliments	7	0	7
Queries	10		12
Ombudsman	6	2	7
Parliamentary/OIA	2	0	2
Other	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>295</b>

The average number of complaints received each week since the start of MIQ is 121. For the last four weeks the average is 264 per week.

This week we have received 313 new cases and have resolved 263 cases.

We continue to respond to a high number of complaints which required more than one response to support them with their current situation. These complaints are difficult to manage as we are unable to provide the resolution that they are seeking – a voucher for their planned travel to New Zealand.



## 5. Border Executive Board Report



### 5.1 Key Issues Being Considered

#### 5.1.1 Border Executive Board meeting

Last week the Border Executive Board considered the suspension of quarantine free travel from Australia; the Reconnecting New Zealanders programme; the Travel Health Declaration System; and terms of reference for reviews into maritime border measures and border worker testing and vaccination.

#### 5.1.2 Suspension of QFT travel with Australia

The suspension of quarantine free travel with Australia remained a focus for border agencies and airlines, especially in the earlier part of the week. MBIE MIQ led BEB-related work, including coordination across agencies and advice to Ministers, such as the prioritisation of MIQ room allocation.

2290 passengers arrived from Australia to New Zealand on 30 July 2021. Pre-departure checks of PDT documentation by Immigration NZ's Airline Liaison Officers and airlines resulted in 58 offloads – 47 for travellers not meeting PDT requirements and 11 who were identified as "pause jumpers" (having been in NSW/Victoria).

331 passengers arrived from Australia to New Zealand on 31 July 2021. Pre-departure checks of PDT documentation resulted in 6 offloads, all for not meeting PDT requirements. These were two flights that departed Australia on Friday 30 July, but arrived in New Zealand on Saturday early morning and are therefore counted into 'arrivals on 31 July.'

Whilst airlines indicated that there was capacity to return travellers prior to the close of the 'window', this was not the case in New South Wales due to constraints in MIQ. To understand demand, and to be able to prioritise travellers with urgent and exceptional circumstances, a mechanism that enabled eligible, stranded travellers in New South Wales to register an interest to fly to New Zealand between 9 and 22 August was created. Travellers were able to register from 10am (NZT) on Friday 30 July until 2pm (NZT) on Tuesday 3 August.

As at 4pm on 4 August 2021, MBIE advises that a total of 926 Registrations of Interest (ROI) have been processed, of which 351 were ineligible. The 575 eligible ROIs that have been processed, equates to a total of 837 people requiring approximately 668 rooms. 338 ROIs have been identified as urgent (525 people requiring approximately 405 rooms) and 237 ROIs have been identified as non-urgent (312 people requiring approximately 263 rooms).

To inform agency considerations regarding returns from the rest of Australia, airlines are providing feedback on the potential to operate red flights from elsewhere in Australia.

#### 5.1.3 Very high-risk countries

Agencies have continued to convene weekly to consider the implementation of risk mitigation measures for travellers from very high-risk countries (currently India, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, and Brazil) – the mitigations for these countries are now routine from an operational perspective.

Border agencies have engaged in advice being provided about the potential operational impacts of reclassifying the current four very high-risk countries to high risk status, and of classifying Indonesia as very high risk. Advice is also being provided on the implementation of possible measures should Fiji be considered to be very high-risk.

#### 5.1.4 Travel health declaration system

A team mobilised last week to start drafting an indicative business case for the Travel Health Pass to support a funding request through the CRRF. This is expected to be considered by Cabinet in September.

The priority for the travel health declaration system is to be able to support any resumption of travel with Australia. It is anticipated that this may initially need to be a manual system, with the digital tool being phased in over time.

Resourcing is a significant risk to this piece of work/key milestone and additional FTEs are urgently required and have been requested.

#### 5.1.5 Mandatory Vaccination for Border Workers – Phase 2

Further vaccination delivery planning across all DHB regions is continuing including managing the additional demand of unvaccinated border workers; ongoing use of the COVID-19 Immunisation Register (CIR) cohort report that identifies unvaccinated border workers from the BWTR and increasing use of Book My Vaccine (the national booking system) across DHBs.

A paper outlining the Supply Chain exemption criteria and process has been approved with additional evidence proposed that is being worked through. Documentation supporting the process being prepared and available to sector from 5 August 2021.

Agencies continue to support PCBUs to assess their workforce against scope of amended order. We expect to see overall number of individual workers in the BWTR increase over coming weeks given anticipatory nature of the Order.

Face-to-face meetings with port employers and unions is ongoing.

#### 5.1.6 The COVID-19 border response: The team of 25,000

As an award finalist, this week the border team of 25,000 presented to the Public Service Commission's Spirit of Service Award (Better Outcomes) judging panel. This entry celebrates and recognises the team of 25,000 border workers who have worked tirelessly to keep COVID-19 out of New Zealand whilst supporting the return of 159,882 travellers through MIQ, the operation of quarantine free travel, and supporting international aspects of our supply chains.

The nomination recognises that the pace of work has been fast and unrelenting. The amount of change implemented and absorbed by this workforce is large. Many staff have worked long hours, to develop policy or operational advice, ensure new infection control procedures are in place for the next working day, or settle in a newly arrived group of Kiwis entering MIQF. Those in front line roles have been required to be vaccinated and are tested on a seven or fourteen day cycle and, unfortunately, some have experienced discrimination and stigmatisation in the community due to their work.

Organisations involved are the New Zealand Customs Service, Ministry for Primary Industries, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Health, several DHBs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Aviation Security Service, New Zealand Defence Force, Maritime New Zealand, Civil Aviation Authority, all international airports; all companies or NGOs operating airside at an international airport; all international airlines; all international ports; all companies or NGOs operating within a port security area at an international port; transport operators moving people to MIQF, Rapiscan, and OCS Group.

## 6. New Zealand Customs Service Weekly Report



### 6.1 Items to Note/Updates

#### 6.1.1 Maritime

##### Container Vessel Mattina (South Port, Bluff)

- The vessel remains at its original berth at Bluff. Other arriving vessels that were scheduled to dock at this berth are being accommodated at other berths
- s9(2)(a) is in isolation within Southland Hospital grounds
- Two crew are in Southland Hospital
- Four crew are in a Managed Isolation Facility
- One further crew was transferred to an MIQ Facility on 2 August 2021. The crew member is an s9(2)(a) and both the Captain and the agent are satisfied that this does not affect the on-board crewing requirements
- 13 crew are isolating on-board

##### Fishing Vessel Playa Zahara (Lyttelton Port)

- All crew have returned to the vessel and it departed Lyttelton on 29 July 2021

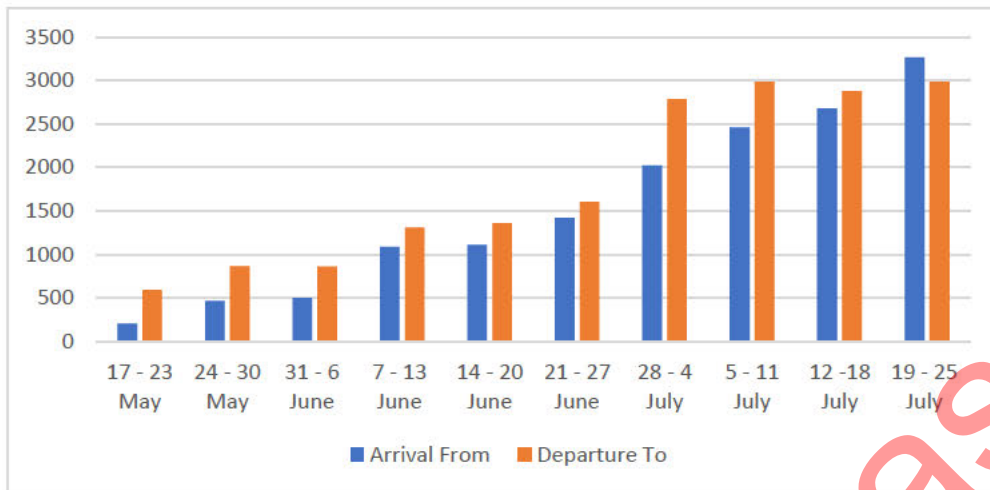
##### Fishing Vessel Viking Bay (Queens Wharf, Wellington)

- All crew have returned to the vessel and it departed Wellington on 2 August 2021

#### 6.1.2 Pre-Departure Testing

s6(c)

6.1.3 Passenger Numbers – Cook Islands



Proactively Released



## 7. COVID-19 Chief Executives Board

### 7.1 Items to Note/Updates

The COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (CCB) met on 3 August. The CCB heard from the Chairs of the Covid-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group (CICRIAG), the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group (SC19PHAG) and the Business Leaders' Forum with updates on the progress of their work programmes. Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Chief Executive for the COVID-19 Group, provided the CCB with an update on the Reconnecting New Zealanders portfolio. The CCB planned for the next few meetings to include discussions on a strategic investment horizon across the COVID-19 system.

## 8. COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group

### 8.1 Items to Note/Updates

The COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group did not meet this week. They are next scheduled to meet on 10 August. Sir Brian Roche and Rob Fyfe met with Megan Main, Deputy Chief Executive, Managed Isolation and Quarantine, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on 3 August. The conversation was focussed on MIQ from a system perspective including roles and accountabilities among the system actors and what will be required to successfully evolve MIQ into the future state.

The members of the Group have been invited to attend the Prime Minister's Reconnecting New Zealanders public forum to be held on 12 August. Sir Brian Roche will be part of a discussion facilitated by Dame Juliet Gerrard at the forum.

## 9. Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group

### 9.1 Items to Note/Updates

The Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group did not meet this week. The next meeting for the Group will be on 25 August, this date has been changed due to the Prime Minister's Reconnecting New Zealanders public forum to be held on 12 August. Sir David Skegg, Chair of the Group, will be speaking at the Public Forum.

## 10. Business Leaders Forum

### 10.1 Items to Note/Updates

The Business Leaders' Forum is confirming the date for the next meeting with the Prime Minister's office. The purpose will be to discuss the Reconnecting New Zealanders work before the Public Forum later in August.

## 11. Community Panel

### 11.1 Items to Note/Updates

The first meeting for the Community Panel took place on 3 August at Parliament. The first meeting was about establishing the whakawhanaungatanga for the Panel and discussing the COVID-19 response system and the Panel's role within this. The Panel Chair was confirmed, and this will be Sarah Sparks. The Panel discussed their experiences during COVID-19 and what they hope to achieve out of their participation. The Panel shared some personal lived experiences and community experiences which provided rich insights. These will be filtered back

into the system over the coming weeks. The next Panel meeting is yet to be confirmed but will take place in early September.

## 12. Government Modelling Group

### 12.1 Items to Note/Updates

The Modelling Steering Group works iteratively with the lead researchers, and meets with Professor Hendy fortnightly, on Tuesdays, to discuss progress and next steps.

The Modelling Governance Group meets roughly once per month to provide oversight for the work programme at a strategic level.

Updates will be provided in a future weekly report.

Proactively Released



- <sup>1</sup> Our World in Data. COVID-19 Vaccinations. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations> - Accessed 03 August 2021
- <sup>2</sup> iNews. When is the next travel announcement? Date for green list update, and countries that could change in review. <https://inews.co.uk/inews-lifestyle/travel/travel-announcement-when-next-green-list-update-date-countries-change-review-predictions-1127362> - Accessed 05 August 2021
- <sup>3</sup> UK Government. Red, amber and green lists rules for entering England. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england#red-list-rules> – Accessed 03 August 2021
- <sup>4</sup> UK Government. Red, amber and green lists rules for entering England. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england#red-list-rules> – Accessed 03 August 2021
- <sup>5</sup> Formal message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES - LON Response, - 2 August 2021. - SENSITIVE
- <sup>6</sup> As of 1 August.
- <sup>7</sup> Formal message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: FRANCE – 27 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>8</sup> Formal message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: FRANCE – 27 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>9</sup> Formal message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: FRANCE – 27 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>10</sup> Formal message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: FRANCE – 27 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>11</sup> The BBC. What are the travel rules for Spain, Portugal, Malta and other holiday hotspots? <https://www.bbc.com/news/explainers-56997931>. Accessed 03 August 2021.
- <sup>12</sup> Our World in Data. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vaccinations. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>. – Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>13</sup> Entry to Israel. Government of Israel. <https://corona.health.gov.il/en/directives/air-travel-covid19-green/#by-air> – Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>14</sup> Entry to Israel. Government of Israel. <https://corona.health.gov.il/en/directives/air-travel-covid19-green/#by-air> – Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>15</sup> Entry to Israel. Government of Israel. <https://corona.health.gov.il/en/directives/air-travel-covid19-green/#by-air> – Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>16</sup> The Times of Israel. Israel delays reopening of borders to vaccinated tourists until August. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-delays-reopening-of-borders-to-vaccinated-tourists-until-august/>. Accessed 04 August 2021.
- <sup>17</sup> Tourist Israel. COVID-19 UPDATE-WHEN WILL TRAVEL TO ISRAEL RESUME?. <https://www.touristisrael.com/when-will-travel-to-israel-resume/31963/> - Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>18</sup> Formal message, TURKEY & ISRAEL - COVID-19 UPDATE – 03 August 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>19</sup> Formal message, TURKEY & ISRAEL - COVID-19 UPDATE - 03 August 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>20</sup> As at 1 August. Our World in Data. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vaccinations. <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations> - Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>21</sup> Government of Canada. Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Who can travel to Canada – Citizens, persons registered under Canada’s Indian Act, permanent residents, foreign nationals and refugees. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/travel-restrictions-exemptions.html#other> – Accessed 03 August 2021
- <sup>22</sup> CIC News. Canada’s hotel quarantine should end, says COVID-19 panel. [https://www.cicnews.com/2021/06/canadas-hotel-quarantine-should-end-says-covid-19-panel-0618252.html#gs\\_841sff](https://www.cicnews.com/2021/06/canadas-hotel-quarantine-should-end-says-covid-19-panel-0618252.html#gs_841sff). – Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>23</sup> Government of Canada. COVID-19 vaccinated travellers entering Canada <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada> - Accessed 05 August 2021
- <sup>24</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>25</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>26</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>27</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>28</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>29</sup> Formal Message, COVID-19: TASKING FOR POSTS: BORDER RE-OPENING STRATEGIES: CANADA, 30 July 2021 - UNCLASSIFIED
- <sup>30</sup> Government of Canada. Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 155, Number 27: ORDERS IN COUNCIL Canada Gazette, Part 1, Volume 155, Number 27: - Accessed 04 August 2021
- <sup>31</sup> Public Health England (PHE), SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: Technical briefing 18. 2021.2.
- <sup>32</sup> Romero, P.E., et al., The Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 Variant Lambda (C.37) in South America. medRxiv, 2021: p. 2021.06.26.21259487.
- <sup>33</sup> Public Health England (PHE), SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: Technical briefing 18. 2021.2
- <sup>34</sup> Billah, M.A., M.M. Miah, and M.N. Khan, Reproductive number of coronavirus: A systematic review and meta-analysis based on global level evidence. PLOS ONE, 2020. 15(11): p. e0242128
- <sup>35</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). COVID-19 Pandemic Planning Scenarios. 19 March 2021 [cited 2021 15 April]; Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/planning-scenarios.html>.
- <sup>36</sup> Li, B., et al., Viral infection and transmission in a large well-traced outbreak caused by the Delta SARS-CoV-2 variant. medRxiv, 2021: p. 2021.07.07.21260122.
- <sup>37</sup> Chia, P.Y., et al., Virological and serological kinetics of SARS-CoV-2 Delta variant vaccine-breakthrough infections: a multi-center cohort study. medRxiv, 2021: p. 2021.07.28.21261295
- <sup>38</sup> Public Health England (PHE), SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: Technical briefing 15. 2021.
- <sup>39</sup> Public Health England (PHE), SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: Technical briefing 19. 2021
- <sup>40</sup> Bernal, J., et al., Effectiveness of Covid-19 Vaccines against the B.1.617.2 (Delta) Variant. New England Journal of Medicine, 2021.
- <sup>41</sup> Nasreen, S., et al., Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines against variants of concern, Canada. medRxiv, 2021: p. 2021.06.28.21259420.
- <sup>42</sup> Stowe, J., et al. Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines against hospital admission with the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant. 2021; Available from: <https://khub.net/documents/135939561/479607266/Effectiveness+of+COVID-19+vaccines+against+hospital+admission+with+the+Delta+%28B.1.617.2%29+variant.pdf/1c213463-3997-ed16-2a6f-14e5deb0b997?t=1623689315431>.