



Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, on behalf of Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister:

Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister – April 2025

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon – United Kingdom and Türkiye, 19-27 April 2025 (CAB-25-SUB-0111 refers)

Title of minute: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister – April 2025 (CAB-25-MIN-0111 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 section of the Act that would apply has 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:

- section 6(d), to maintain the safety of any person
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials.

With regard to paragraph 11 of the Cabinet paper, please note that the Prime Minister's wife did not accompany him on his official travel. This change occurred after the paper had already been considered by Cabinet.

IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon – United Kingdom and Türkiye, 19-27 April 2025

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to undertake official travel to the United Kingdom and to Türkiye, from Saturday 19 April until Sunday 27 April inclusive.

Purpose of travel

- 2 The purpose of my bilateral visit to London is to revitalise and deepen New Zealand's relationship with one of our closest traditional partners, in line with the Government's Foreign Policy Reset, and to leverage opportunities to grow trade and investment in support of the Government's economic growth plan.
- 3 In Türkiye I will lead New Zealand's presence at the 110th anniversary of the ANZAC landings in Gallipoli, honouring their sacrifice and remembering all New Zealand veterans of conflict. I will also meet with President Erdoğan.

United Kingdom (21 – 23 April 2025)

- 4 New Zealand's relationship with the United Kingdom is additive to our national security and economic prosperity. The United Kingdom is our greatest source of European foreign direct investment, our seventh largest trading partner, and a fast-growing export market (thanks to our FTA). It is home to our second largest diaspora of New Zealanders offshore and is New Zealand's fourth largest source of international visitors (behind Australia, the United States and China).
- 5 As a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council and G7¹, the world's sixth-largest economy, with globally employed defence and intelligence capabilities, the UK has scale and reach that can be leveraged to help realise some of our own national interests.
- 6 The objectives of my visit to London are to:
 - 6.1 In a changing strategic environment, position New Zealand as a reliable partner for a globally engaged UK.
 - 6.2 Demonstrate New Zealand's commitment to our defence and security partnership with the UK.
 - 6.3 Support export growth in both emerging and traditional sectors of the UK market, and attract high-quality UK investment.

Türkiye (23-26 April 2025)

¹ The Group of Seven (G7) consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US; and the European Union (EU) as a "non-enumerated member".

7 I will also visit Türkiye to participate in the Gallipoli commemorations, on the 110th anniversary of the ANZAC landings. This visit would be the first to Türkiye by a Prime Minister since Sir John Key in 2015 and will provide an opportunity for in-person engagements with Turkish leaders.

8 The objectives of my visit to Türkiye are to:

8.1 Honour New Zealand's most significant war commemoration and register in person New Zealand's gratitude for the resources Türkiye puts into making the Gallipoli commemorations successful every year.

8.2 Meet with my counterpart, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

Outline of proposed visit

9 I intend to undertake or seek the following engagements in the United Kingdom:

- An audience with His Majesty King Charles III, a meeting with Prime Minister Keir Starmer, and other political engagements.
- Host or participate in events designed to highlight New Zealand as an investment destination and profile business links.
- Activities that profile our defence and security partnership, including the contribution made by New Zealand troops deployed in the United Kingdom.

10 I intend to undertake or seek the following engagements in Türkiye:

- Attend Gallipoli commemoration services across 24 and 25 April.
- Political engagements, including a meeting with President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

Prime Ministerial party

11 I will be accompanied by two staff members from my office. Our costs will be met by Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel. I will also be accompanied by my wife whose costs will be met personally.

12 I will also be accompanied by s6(d) New Zealand Police Dignitary Protection Service staff, whose costs will be met by Vote Police.

13 Accompanying officials will join from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Their costs will be covered by their respective agencies.

Travel costs

14 The following is a breakdown of estimated costs to be covered by the Prime Minister's Office, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.

Flights	s9(2)(f)(iv)
Accommodation	
Meals and other expenses, including transport, incidentals	

Hospitality and events	s9(2)(f)(iv)	
Gifts		
Subtotal		
<i>Contingency (5%)</i>		
Total		

Acting Ministers

- 15 If my travel is approved, I propose that Rt Hon Winston Peters act as Prime Minister, Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services and Minister for National Security and Intelligence.

Proactive Release

- 16 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 4 on the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's website. The paper will be subject to redaction as appropriate on the grounds set out under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendations

- 1 This paper recommends that Cabinet:
- 1.1 **Authorise** my absence from New Zealand, from 19 to 27 April 2025 to travel to London, United Kingdom, and Istanbul and Gallipoli, Türkiye.
 - 1.2 **Agree** that I be accompanied by two members of staff from my office.
 - 1.3 **Approve** the estimated expenditure of s9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.
 - 1.4 **Note** that I will be accompanied by officials from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose travel costs will be met by the respective agencies.
 - 1.5 **Agree** that in my absence, Rt Hon Winston Peters act as Prime Minister, Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services and Minister for National Security and Intelligence.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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.

Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister - April 2025

Portfolio **Prime Minister**

On 7 April 2025, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of the Prime Minister from New Zealand, from 19 to 27 April 2025, to travel to:
 - 1.1 London, United Kingdom for bilateral meetings;
 - 1.2 Istanbul and Gallipoli, Türkiye to attend the 110th anniversary of the ANZAC landings in Gallipoli, and for bilateral meetings;
- 2 **agreed** that he be accompanied by two members of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to s9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **noted** that he will be accompanied by officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Dignitary Protection Service, whose travel costs will be met by their respective agencies;
- 5 **agreed** that in his absence, the Rt Hon Winston Peters act as Prime Minister, Minister for National Security and Intelligence, and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services;
- 6 **noted** that the House is not sitting during his absence.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet