



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 - August 2025

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon – Independent State of Papua New Guinea, 4-6 August 2025 (CAB-25-SUB-0247 refers)

Title of minute: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister - August 2025 (CAB-25-MIN-0247 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(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials.

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon – Independent State of Papua New Guinea, 4-6 August 2025

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to undertake official travel to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea (Papua New Guinea), from Monday 4 August to Wednesday 6 August inclusive.

Purpose of Travel

- 2 I intend to visit Papua New Guinea in order to celebrate and further advance our bilateral relationship. My visit would profile the New Zealand – Papua New Guinea relationship, through leader-to-leader engagement, as we celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations and as Papua New Guinea marks 50 years of independence this year.
- 3 This is a timely opportunity to showcase New Zealand’s value-proposition as a likeminded partner who consistently delivers on Papua New Guinea’s priorities, including build on the engagements I had with Prime Minister Marape in Wellington this March.
- 4 The objectives of my visit are to:
 - 4.1 Reiterate at the highest level the importance New Zealand attaches to our relationship with Papua New Guinea as we celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations.
 - 4.2 s6(a)
 - 4.3 Advance implementation of the New Zealand Papua New Guinea Statement of Partnership, including by announcing progress in economic cooperation.

Outline of proposed visit

- 5 I intend to undertake the following key engagements in Papua New Guinea:
 - 5.1 Meetings with Prime Minister Marape and other political leaders;

- 5.2 Events to highlight New Zealand-supported projects and activities in Papua New Guinea, including in the health s6(a) and to promote business;
- 5.3 Attendance at a joint New Zealand Defence Force-Papua New Guinea Defence Force training event during Exercise Phoenix Kumul; and
- 5.4 An event to celebrate 50 years of New Zealand's relationship with Papua New Guinea.

Delegation – Papua New Guinea

- 6 I propose to be joined in Papua New Guinea by travelling New Zealand business representatives and New Zealand media.
- 7 The Royal New Zealand Air Force will provide transportation using the B757.

Prime Ministerial Party

- 8 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.
- 9 Officials joining me will come from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise. Their costs will be covered by their respective agencies.
- 10 I will also be accompanied by New Zealand Police Dignitary Protection Service staff, whose costs will be met by Vote Police.

Travel Costs – Papua New Guinea

- 11 The following is an expected 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:

Accommodation	s9(2)(f)(iv)	
Transportation and security		
Meals and other expenses, including incidentals and telecommunications		
Hospitality and events		
Gifts		
Contingency flights		
Subtotal		
<i>Contingency (5%)</i>		
Total		

Acting Ministers

- 12 If my travel is approved, I propose that Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services, and Hon Judith Collins act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence in my absence.

Proactive release

- 13 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 4 August to 6 August 2025 to travel to Papua New Guinea;
 - 1.2 **agree** that I am accompanied to Papua New Guinea by two members of my staff;
 - 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 would be accompanied by officials from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, and New Zealand Police, whose travel costs would be met by the respective agencies;
 - 1.5 **note** that I would be accompanied by business representatives and a media delegation, whose costs would be met by them personally;
 - 1.6 **agree** that in my absence:
 - 1.6.1 Hon David Seymour would act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services; and
 - 1.6.2 Hon Judith Collins would act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence.
 - 1.7 note that the House is not sitting during my absence.

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 - August 2025

Portfolio **Prime Minister**

On 28 July 2025, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of the Prime Minister from New Zealand, from 4 to 6 August 2025, to travel to Papua New Guinea for a bilateral visit;
- 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, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, and New Zealand Police, whose travel costs will be met by their respective agencies;
- 5 **noted** that he will also be accompanied by business representatives and a media delegation, whose costs will be met personally;
- 6 **noted** that the Ministerial party and delegations are expected to travel on a New Zealand Defence Force aircraft;
- 7 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 7.1 Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services;
 - 7.2 Hon Judith Collins KC act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence;
- 8 **noted** that the House is not sitting during his absence.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet