



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, Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay
- May 2026**

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister, Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay – May 2026 (CAB-26-SUB-0143refers)

Title of minute: Proposed Overseas Travel: Prime Minister, Hon Nicola Willis and Jon Todd McClay- May 2026 (CAB-26-MIN-0143 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

In-Confidence Unclassified

Office of the Prime Minister

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon - May 2026

1 I seek Cabinet approval to undertake official travel to Singapore from 3 May to 6 May 2026.

Purpose of Travel

2 I intend to travel to Singapore to demonstrate New Zealand's enduring commitment to one of New Zealand's most important Southeast Asian partners as part of the Government's foreign policy reset.

3 The objectives of the visit to Singapore are to:

- Demonstrate that Singapore is a reliable partner of choice for New Zealand in securing our fuel supply.
- Reinforce our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership - as small, advanced economies, aligned on global and regional issues, jointly navigating global disruption.
- Bed in the SNZLF s 6(a) – a strategic discussion between Government and business, launched at a time when we need to work together the most.

Outline of the visit

4 In Singapore, I intend to meet with Singapore's Prime Minister and Head of State, attend elements of the Singapore-New Zealand Leadership Forum, and visit defence and business initiatives.

Delegation

5 To reflect New Zealand's continued commitment to Southeast Asian partners under the foreign policy reset, I propose to be accompanied by Ministers and a group of New Zealand media. A group of New Zealand businesses will also be in Singapore for the Leadership Forum.

6 I propose to be accompanied on the visit by Hon Nicola Willis, Minister of Finance, and Hon Todd McClay, Minister for Trade and Investment (3-5 May only).

7 I propose to be accompanied by my spouse and two staff from my office. The Minister of Finance and the Minister for Trade and Investment will be accompanied by one staff member each. These costs would be met by Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel. I will also be accompanied by an additional staff member whose expenses will be covered by the National Leaders' Office.

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

9 The delegation will travel to and from Singapore on commercial flights.

Travel Costs

10 The following is a breakdown of estimated costs covered by the Prime Minister's Office, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel. The Department of Internal Affairs is required under legislation to release aggregated expenses on Ministerial travel and accommodation on a quarterly basis on its website.

Flights	s 9(2)(f)(iv)
Accommodation	
Meals and other expenses, including incidentals and telecommunications	
Ground transport	
Hospitality and events	
Gifts	
Subtotal	
<i>Contingency (5%)</i>	
Total	

11 The following is a breakdown of estimated costs for travel to Singapore, covered by the Office of the Minister of Finance, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel. The Department of Internal Affairs is required under legislation to release aggregated expenses on Ministerial travel and accommodation on a quarterly basis on its website.

Flights	s 9(2)(f)(iv)
Accommodation	
Meals and other expenses, including incidentals and telecommunications	
Subtotal	

<i>Contingency (5%)</i>	s 9(2)(f)(iv)
Total	

- 12 The following is a breakdown of estimated costs for travel to Singapore, covered by the Office of the Minister for Trade and Investment, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel. The Department of Internal Affairs is required under legislation to release aggregated expenses on Ministerial travel and accommodation on a quarterly basis on its website.

Flights	s 9(2)(f)(iv)
Accommodation	
Meals and other expenses, including incidentals and telecommunications	
Subtotal	
<i>Contingency (5%)</i>	
Total	

Acting Ministers

- 13 If my travel is approved, I propose that Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services, and Hon Mark Mitchell act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence in my absence.
- 14 Acting in Hon Nicola Willis' portfolios will be Hon Chris Bishop (Finance, Economic Growth); and Hon Louise Upston (Social Investment).
- 15 Acting in Hon Todd McClay's portfolios will be Hon Mike Butterick (Agriculture); Hon Nicola Grigg (Trade and Investment); and Hon Tama Potaka (Forestry).

Proactive release

- 16 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO (23) 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

- 17 I recommend that Cabinet:
- 17.1 **Authorise** my absence from New Zealand from 3 to 6 May 2026 to travel to Singapore.

- 17.2 **Agree** that I be accompanied by Minister Willis and Minister McClay from 3 to 5 May, two members of staff from my office, one member of staff from Minister Willis' office, and one member of staff from Minister McClay's office.
- 17.3 **Approve** the estimated expenditure of s 9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.
- 17.4 **Note** that I will be accompanied by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise whose travel costs will be met by respective agencies, and Dignitary Protection Service whose travel will be met by Vote Police. I will also be accompanied by an additional staff member whose expenses will be covered by the National Leaders' Office.
- 17.5 **Agree** that in my absence: Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services, and Hon Mark Mitchell act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence.
- 17.6 **Agree** that in the absence of Minister Willis: Hon Chris Bishop act as Minister of Finance and Minister of Economic Growth; and Hon Louise Upston act as Minister for Social Investment.
- 17.7 **Agree** that in the absence of Minister McClay: Hon Mike Butterick act as Minister of Agriculture; Hon Nicola Grigg act as Minister for Trade and Investment; and Hon Tama Potaka act as Minister of Forestry.
- 17.8 **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, Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay – May 2026

Portfolio Prime Minister

On 28 April 2026, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence from New Zealand of the Prime Minister and Hon Nicola Willis, from 3 to 6 May 2026, and Hon Todd McClay from 3 to 5 May 2026, to travel to Singapore for bilateral engagements;
- 2 **agreed** that they be accompanied by two members of staff from the Prime Minister's office and one member of staff from each of the offices of Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to s 9(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 they will also be accompanied by:
 - 4.1 the Prime Minister's spouse;
 - 4.2 an additional member of staff from the Prime Minister's office, whose costs will be met by the National Leaders' Office;
 - 4.3 officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, whose travel costs will be met by their respective agencies, and Dignitary Protection Service staff whose travel costs will be met through Vote Police;
- 5 **agreed** that in the absence of the Prime Minister:
 - 5.1 Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services;
 - 5.2 Hon Mark Mitchell act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence;
- 6 **agreed** that in the absence of Hon Nicola Willis:
 - 6.1 Hon Chris Bishop act as Minister of Finance and Minister for Economic Growth;
 - 6.2 Hon Louise Upston act as Minister for Social Investment;

- 7 **agreed** that in the absence of Hon Todd McClay:
 - 7.1 Hon Mike Butterick act as Minister of Agriculture;
 - 7.2 Hon Nicola Grigg act as Minister for Trade and Investment;
 - 7.3 Hon Tama Potaka act as Minister of Forestry;
- 8 **noted** that the House is not sitting during their absence.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released



Cabinet

Summary

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, Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay – May 2026

Portfolio Prime Minister

The Prime Minister recommends that Cabinet:

- 1 authorise his absence, and the absence of Hon Nicola Willis, from 3 to 6 May 2026, and the absence of Hon Todd McClay from 3 to 5 May 2026, from New Zealand to travel to Singapore for bilateral engagements;
- 2 agree that they be accompanied by two members of staff from his office and one member of staff from each of the offices of Hon Nicola Willis and Hon Todd McClay;
- 3 approve the estimated expenditure of up to s 9(2)(f)(iv) for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 note that they will also be accompanied by:
 - 4.1 the Prime Minister's spouse;
 - 4.2 an additional member of staff from the Prime Minister's office, whose costs will be met by the National Leaders' Office;
 - 4.3 officials from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, whose travel costs will be met by their respective agencies, and Dignitary Protection Service staff whose travel costs will be met through Vote Police;
- 5 agree that in the absence of the Prime Minister:
 - 5.1 Hon David Seymour act as Prime Minister and Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services;
 - 5.2 Hon Mark Mitchell act as Minister for National Security and Intelligence;
- 6 agree that in the absence of Hon Nicola Willis:
 - 6.1 Hon Chris Bishop act as Minister of Finance and Minister for Economic Growth;
 - 6.2 Hon Louise Upston act as Minister for Social Investment;

- 7 agree that in the absence of Hon Todd McClay:
- 7.1 Hon Mike Butterick act as Minister of Agriculture;
 - 7.2 Hon Nicola Grigg act as Minister for Trade and Investment;
 - 7.3 Hon Tama Potaka act as Minister of Forestry;
- 8 note that the House is not sitting during their absence.

Janine Harvey
for Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:
The Cabinet

Proactively Released