

Briefing

Exemption request for hairdressers to operate as part of a COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate trial in Auckland

Date due to MO: 16 November 2021 **Action required by:** 17 November 2021

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** 20212504

To: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for COVID-19 Response

Copy to: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Ashley Bloomfield	Director-General of Health	s 9(2)(a)
Steve Waldegrave	Group Manager, COVID-19 Policy Response, System Strategy and Policy	s 9(2)(a)

Minister's office to complete:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | |

Comment:

Exemption request for hairdressers to operate as part of a COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate trial in Auckland

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Date:** 15 November 2021

To: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for COVID-19 Response

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this briefing is to notify you of my powers to grant exemptions from the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Alert Level Requirements) Order (No 12) 2021 (the Order) to hairdressers in Auckland for the COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate trial.

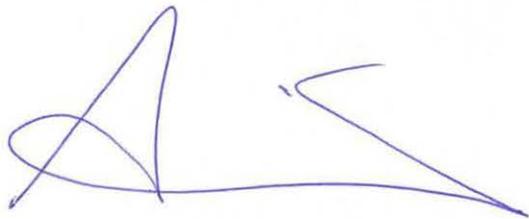
Summary

2. Last week, the Prime Minister requested the Minister approve a pilot program for the use of COVID-19 Vaccine Certification (CVC) for hairdressers in Auckland, beginning 25 November. This pilot would mirror the proposed technical trial for six businesses that began in Wellington on 15 November.
3. Currently, hairdressers are not able to operate under the Alert Level three, step two parameters that are in place in Auckland. To enable the CVC trial to go ahead, I propose to make an exemption under the Alert Level requirements Order. Under clause 54 of the Order, I am able to grant an exemption to any class of persons from the application of any provision of the Order if I am satisfied that:
 - a. the exemption is necessary and desirable in order to promote the purposes of the Act or the purposes of this order; and
 - b. the extent of the exemption is not broader than is reasonably necessary to address the matter that gave rise to the exemption.
4. Should I grant the exemption allowing the CVC pilot to go ahead for hairdressers, public health measures would need to be put in place to mitigate any public health risk, which the Ministry's Public Health Department would advise on. The measures could include mask wearing, social distancing and cleaning protocols, for example.
5. If I am satisfied that the exemption of hairdressers from the Alert Level Order meets such provisions and appropriate public health mitigation measures can be put in place, I will sign an exemption notice to be gazetted. The exemption would come into force 48 hours after the gazetting.

Recommendations

We recommend you:

- a) **Note** that under clause 54 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Alert Level) Order, I have the power to grant exemptions to any class of person for the purposes of a COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate pilot program. **Note**



Dr Ashley Bloomfield

Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

Director-General of Health

Date: 16/11/21

ENDS.

PROACTIVELY RELEASED