



# Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee

## 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.*

---

### Amendments to the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Amendment Bill

Portfolio                      Police

On 24 July 2024, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee:

- 1        **noted** that in November 2022, the previous government agreed to amendments to the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Act 2016 (the Act) [SWC-22-MIN-0213];
- 2        **noted** that additional amendments have been identified that are in keeping with the intent of the original amendments;
- 3        **noted** that these amendments will improve the clarity of the legislation and thereby better achieve the purpose of the Act to enhance public safety, particularly the sexual safety of children and young people in the community;
- 4        **agreed** that the following amendments be included in the Child Protection (Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration) Amendment Bill (the Bill):
  - 4.1        require the contact details of the principal caregiver to be provided;
  - 4.2        require registrable offenders to report their nationality and the name of each country of which they are a citizen;
  - 4.3        change the definition of residence by introducing a definition of residence based on section 72(3) of the Electoral Act 1993;
  - 4.4        require registrable offenders to report changes to their telecommunication services, email addresses, internet services and devices, usernames for online accounts and website domains they own or administer within 48 hours of the change occurring;
  - 4.5        require registrable offenders to report any change of information in relation to citizenship, nationality, name of the country issuing the passport, and refugee travel documentation, to be supported by evidence that is provided electronically;
  - 4.6        require that when a registrable offender is travelling domestically with a child, they must report their name, sex, and date of birth, and the name and contact details of the child's principal caregiver;

- 4.7 require registrable offenders to report the sex and age or approximate age of children who will / will likely be present at addresses where a registrable offender is staying while travelling domestically;
  - 4.8 reverse the policy approval for section 21(2) to require the name of the child's principal caregiver to be provided to Registry staff for children who are / will likely be residing at the address the registrable offender is staying at;
  - 4.9 require registrable offenders who travel outside of New Zealand for longer than 48 hours to report this information at least seven days in advance;
  - 4.10 require registrable offenders intending to travel out of New Zealand for more than 48 hours to report the date they intend to arrive in their new country of residence (if not intending to return to New Zealand);
  - 4.11 require registrable offenders to report their return to New Zealand no more than 72 hours after re-entering;
  - 4.12 remove the requirement for registrable offenders to report their return to New Zealand in person;
  - 4.13 enable the Commissioner of Police to require the registrable offender to provide a copy of each passport by post or electronically;
  - 4.14 remove the requirement for the registrable offender to report their intention to travel outside of New Zealand in person;
- 5 **noted** that the retrospective nature of the amendments will likely engage sections 26(2) and 25(g) of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and may potentially also engage section 14 of the Act, but that this imposition is considered justified when balanced against the objectives of the Act and the severity of the harm caused by child sex offending;
- 6 **invited** the Minister of Police to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the decisions under SOU-24-MIN-0082;
- 7 **authorised** the Minister of Police to make additional minor and technical amendments to give effect to the policy decisions that may arise during the drafting of the Bill;
- 8 **noted** that the Bill holds a currently category 5 priority on the 2024 Legislation Programme (to proceed to select committee by the end of 2024).

Jenny Vickers  
Committee Secretary

---

**Attendance: (see over)**

**Present:**

Hon David Seymour  
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)  
Hon Dr Shane Reti  
Hon Erica Stanford  
Hon Paul Goldsmith  
Hon Louise Upston  
Hon Mark Mitchell  
Hon Tama Potaka  
Hon Matt Doocey  
Hon Nicole McKee  
Hon Casey Costello  
Hon Penny Simmonds  
Hon Karen Chhour  
Hon Nicola Grigg

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for SOU