



Coversheet

Proposed amendment to the Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill

Hon Louise Upston – Minister for Social Development and Employment

These documents have been proactively released in full.

25 January 2024, Cabinet paper - Proposed amendment to the Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill

25 January 2024, Cabinet Business Committee Minute of Decision, CBC-24-MIN-0007, Cabinet Office.

The Cabinet paper sought Cabinet agreement to amend the Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill to shorten the proposed timeframe for the delay of the repeal of the experience pathway for social worker registration by two years to 28 February 2026. The Bill initially proposed to delay the repeal of the experience pathway by four years, from 28 February 2024 to 28 February 2028.

This amendment was proposed to balance the need to support the social work sector in the short-term to address social worker workforce supply issues, while maintaining the emphasis on transitioning to a mandatory qualification setting as soon as possible.

The following documents relating to this Cabinet paper are already public:

- *Revised Disclosure statement: Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill*, which reflects changes to the timeframe of the delay of the repeal of the experience pathway.
<https://disclosure.legislation.govt.nz/ap/government/2024/12/>
- *Legislative Statement for the second reading of the Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill*, which supported the second reading of the Bill.
http://www.nzlii.org/nz/legis/bill_ls/swrlabsrsls847/

Please note – The Cabinet paper *Proposed amendment to the Social Workers Registration Legislation Amendment Bill* had a typographical error in paragraph 39: 'Tertiary Education Council' should be corrected to 'Tertiary Education Commission'.

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