

12 February 2020

Committee Secretariat
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Via email: fadt@parliament.govt.nz

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC 2021) Bill

To whom it may concern:

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC 2021) Bill.

TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in New Zealand. With over 1,600 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including hospitality, accommodation, adventure & other activities, attractions, retail, airports & airlines, transport, as well as related tourism services.

TIA is supportive of the introduction of the Bill. TIA recognises the importance of hosting APEC 2021 to New Zealand's international standing, and the economic benefits from such a large event. We support the introduction of legislative framework to support the activities of APEC and specifically Leaders Week.

We acknowledge that some of the provisions of the Bill will be disruptive to a number of our hotel members who will be hosting world leaders. We do however understand that such provisions are standard when hosting delegations of importance and we are committed to working with our hoteliers to accommodate these provisions while limiting the impact on other guests.

We would urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to ensure that all communication about updates for APEC 2021 is timely, easily accessible and removes any confusion for operators, tourists and local residents. Early communication around the identification of security areas within a property, notifications of events such as road closures, and anything that will impact businesses ability to operate is key to minimising business disruption. Organisers should also give consideration in their planning to ensuring a positive visitor experience is maintained for those not involved in APEC 2021, and minimising disruption to local residents as much as practicable.

We understand that this Bill only applies to Leaders Week and the week either side of that, and the sections of the Bill that apply to accommodation will only apply to those operators that are hosting a world leader. Again, if it is decided that the Bill will apply more broadly to all APEC 2021 meetings, this needs to be well communicated with sufficient lead-in times to ensure operators are prepared.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about our feedback.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Attfield', written in a cursive style.

Sally Attfield

Hotel Sector Manager

Tourism Industry Aotearoa