

VISA PAK ISSUE 542 — 17 MARCH 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTION ON THE ORDER OF PROCESSING RECOVERY VISAS

This advice is to notify staff of a general instruction that has been given to immigration officers by the Deputy Secretary of Immigration New Zealand on 13 March 2023 under section 26(4) of the Immigration Act 2009 as to the order of processing specified Specific Purpose and Event Work Visa applications. Specified Specific Purpose and Event Work Visa applications are those known as Recovery Visas granted to applicants that meet Immigration Instructions WS2.1.1(n).

Immigration officers tasked with processing Recovery Visa applications (under Specific Purpose and Event work visa) are directed to ensure Recovery Visa applications are ordered and allocated for processing before any other lodged Specific Purpose and Event Work Visa application.

The standing general instruction dated 22 December 2022 (a copy of which is published at [A16.1](#) of the INZ Operational Manual) continues to apply except subject to this specific direction.

The general instruction takes effect immediately, until and unless it is revoked.

Other Specific Purpose or Event Visa applications related to the recovery may be prioritised on a case-by-case basis. Standard Operating Procedures are in place to help Immigration Officers streamline processing and ensure the above approach is adhered to.