MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

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Briefing Note: Meeting with Regional Directors of Education 18 December 2019

To:	Hon Tracey Martin, Associate Minister of Education		
Date:	13 December 2019	**Priority:**	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	**METIS No:**	1214379
Drafter:	Alison Dow	**DDI:**	s 9(2)(a) [redacted]
Key Contact:	Julie O'Toole	**DDI:**	[redacted]
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	**Round Robin:**	No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide information and suggested topics for discussion related to your meeting with the Sector Enablement and Support Leadership Team, including Regional Directors of Education, at 11 am on 18 December 2019 in room 2.01 Matauranga House.

Agree that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / **Disagree**

Summary

- You are meeting with the Regional Directors of Education (the Directors) and other senior leaders from the Sector Enablement and Support Group on 18 December 2019, at the Ministry of Education National Office.

Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support
12/12/2019

Hon Tracey Martin
Associate Minister of Education
18/12/19.

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Background

1. You are meeting with the leadership team of the Sector Enablement and Support Group (SE&S) Leadership Team at 11 am on Wednesday 18 December. SE&S is the key sector-facing group of the Ministry.

2. The following people will be attending the meeting from the Ministry of Education:

   Regional Directors of Education:

   - Hira Gage, Tai Tokerau
   - Isabel Evans, Auckland
   - Paula Rawiri, Waikato
   - Ezra Schuster, Bay of Plenty, Waiariki
   - Claire Hague, Hawkes Bay, Tairāwhiti
   - Marlene Clarkson (Acting), Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatū
   - Roy Sye, Wellington
   - Derek Lucic, Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast
   - Coralanne Child, Canterbury, Chatham Islands
   - Julie Anderson, Otago Southland

   Calm.

   Other members of the SE&S Senior Management Team

   - Katrina Casey – Deputy Secretary Sector Enablement and Support
   - Susan Howan – Associate Deputy Secretary Strategy and Implementation
   - David Wales – National Director Learning Support
   - Helen Hurst – Associate Deputy Secretary Operational Delivery
   - Jane Chirnside – Group Manager Performance and Capability
   - Jann Marshall – Director of Education, Special Projects

3. The attendees will introduce themselves to you at the meeting.

Role of Regional Directors of Education

4. The Directors lead regional teams to coordinate and deliver responsive solutions in order to realise local education priorities and goals. Their work includes:

   - providing advice and guidance on education strategies, participation and interventions to regional stake holders; such as other government agencies, NGOs, local businesses, special interest groups, etc.
   - working in partnership with ECE and school leaders, parents, families, whānau and communities to understand their needs and provide support and resources for education success
   - ensuring regulatory compliance across the sector

5. In early learning their focus is on increasing early childhood education participation, regulating the sector and improving the quality of provision, including:

   - certification of playgroups
   - licensing of ECE service providers, including new licences, relicensing and changes to licences
   - allocation of professional learning and development
   - liaison with local councils to support shared interests in the provision of quality ECE

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- providing funding for initiatives to increase participation of vulnerable children in ECE
- learning support services

6. In schooling, the focus is on ensuring students have access to high-quality education through the region's work with schools and boards of trustees on student engagement and achievement, learning support and transition in and out of compulsory schooling. This includes:

    - student attendance and engagement initiatives that focus on learner needs and as a result reduce truancy and suspension rates
    - alignment with other social sector agencies such as MSD to share information that will have long term benefits for learners with special education needs
    - enhanced planning and reporting through new technologies, which will allow targeted service delivery based on more relevant, accurate and timely information
    - assisting school governance and financial management
    - education network management, with particular emphasis on areas of population/roll decline and areas of population/roll growth
    - learning support services and the Learning Support Delivery Model

Topics for discussion

7. Topics you may wish to discuss include:

    - Progress with the Learning Support Delivery Model and Learning Support Coordinators
    - New approaches to addressing waiting times/lists for Early Intervention
    - At Risk provision and your vision for Alternative Education and student attendance
    - Your interest in visits to the regions next year

Annexe

Annex 1: Background information on possible discussion topics

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Annex 1: Background information on possible discussion topics

Learning Support Delivery Model

The regional implementation of the Learning Support Delivery Model (LSDM) is a priority for all Directors and their staff.

BERPI information from the end of Term 3 (September 2019) indicates that:

- 254 clusters are implementing the LSDM - 43 are non Kāhui Ako clusters
- these 254 clusters comprise over 1,384 early learning services and 2078 schools
- there has been an increase of 8 clusters participating in the LSDM since July 2019
- 137 clusters (54%) are in the 'Beginning" & "Engagement' phases (compared to 154 in July 2019)
- 53 clusters (21%) are in the 'Refining' phase (compared to 58 in July 2019)
- 64 clusters (25%) are in the 'Pre-implementation' & 'Implementation' phases (compared to 34 in July 2019)

	B	E	R	P	I	Total
Tai Tokerau	3	1	2	7	7	20
Auckland	5	27	13	7	-	52
Waikato	3	19	4	-	-	26
Bay of Plenty/Waiariki	2	3	3	4	3	15
Hawke's Bay/Tairāwhiti	8	5	7	-	-	20
Taranaki /Whanganui/Manawatu	7	14	1	-	-	22
Wellington	6	7	10	1	1	25
Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast	2	10	-	-	-	12
Canterbury/Chatham Islands	-	7	6	5	13	31
Otago/Southland	-	8	7	14	2	31
Total Clusters	**36**	**101**	**53**	**38**	**26**	**254**
Early Learning Services & me ngā Kōhanga Reo	104	457	333	235	225	1,384
Schools & Kura	283	815	449	320	211	2,078
Children & Young People	91,554	277,342	148,410	105,491	62,027	684,824
Māori Medium Kura & me ngā Kōhanga Reo	22	25	14	6	7	74

Note: *Early Learning Services & me ngā Kōhanga Reo are members of Kāhui Ako only

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Learning Support Coordinators

Eighty-four percent (524 out of 623) of all Learning Support Coordinator (LSC) positions have now been advertised. As at 4 December, with 19 roles currently advertised in the Education Gazette.

Table 1: LSC vacancies advertised to date by region

Education Region	LSC Allocation	Total Advertised to date	Currently advertised (04/12/19)	Percentage advertised to date
Tai Tokerau	35	33	2	94.3%
Auckland	162	142	4	87.7%
Waikato	71	58	3	81.7%
Bay of Plenty/Waiariki	70	66	1	94.3%
Hawkes Bay/Tairāwhiti	42	29	0	69.0%
Taranaki/Whanganui/Manawatū	37	26	4	70.3%
Wellington	61	51	1	83.6%
Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast	25	18	3	72.0%
Canterbury/Chatham Islands	69	60	1	80.4%
Otago/Southland	51	41	0	80.4%
Total	**623**	**524**	**19**	**84.1%**

Note: The advertised LSC roles represented in the table above are those roles advertised in the Education Gazette that have the role title Learning Support Coordinator. If roles are not advertised in the Gazette, or under a different title, they will not be represented in the figures above. We continue to follow up with clusters that have not yet advertised their LSC positions.

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Waiting Times/Lists for Learning Support specialist services

As part of the LSDM, regions are implementing a range of local approaches to better meet demand for learning support in their communities through Early Intervention.

The table below shows the average waiting time for support from the Early Intervention Service, by region, as at 30 Nov 2019, and compared to the same period last year.

Table 2: Average waiting time for support from the Early Intervention Service at 30 November 2018 and 30 November 2019

Education Region	30 Nov 18 YTD	30 Nov 19 YTD
Tai Tokerau	82.52	31.97
Auckland	95.81	99.39
Waikato	92.94	88.28
Bay of Plenty/Waiariki	109.24	133.62
Hawkes Bay/Tairāwhiti	80.64	95.75
Taranaki/Whanganui/Manawatū	122.03	155.32
Wellington	177.96	112.38
Nelson/Marlborough/W. Coast	40.86	81.78
Canterbury/Chatham Islands	93.14	86.25
Otago/Southland	75.99	87.74
National	**102.15**	**101.22**

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