



AIDE MEMOIRE

Centres of Vocational Excellence – Cabinet paper

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| Date: | 22 July 2019 | Priority: | High |
| To: | Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education | METIS No: | 1199813 |
| From: | Vic Johns, Policy Director, Graduate Achievement, Vocations and Careers, Ministry of Education | Security Level: | Budget sensitive |

Purpose

1. This aide memoire provides you with talking points to support your discussion on the proposal to establish pilot Centres of Vocational Education with the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee on 24 July and with Cabinet on 29 July.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that you:

Agree to proactively release this Aide Memoire once final decisions have been made on the reform of vocational education.

Agree / Disagree

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

20/7/19

We get the job done Ka oti i a mātou ngā mahi

We are respectful, we listen, we learn He rōpū manaaki, he rōpū whakarongo, he rōpū ako mātou

We back ourselves and others to win Ka manawanui ki a mātou me ētahi ake kia wikitoria

We work together for maximum impact Ka mahi ngātahi mō te tuinga nui tonu

Great results are our bottom line Ko ngā huanga tino pai ā mātou whāinga mutunga

Talking points to support your Cabinet discussion CoVEs

Context – wider reform of vocational education

- Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) are one of the seven changes to be introduced as part of the reform of vocational education (RoVE) that was agreed by Cabinet on 22 July.
- Together, these changes will create a strong, unified, sustainable system for all vocational education that delivers the skills that learners, employers and communities need to thrive.

The role of CoVEs in the new system

- CoVEs will play a key role in the new system by driving innovation and excellence in vocational teaching and learning by strengthening links with industry and communities.
- I intend to establish two pilot CoVEs in the Primary and Construction sectors. These pilots will be used to inform any future investment in new CoVEs.
- CoVEs will be a consortium that includes education experts, industry experts and researchers, and in some instances may also include occupational regulators.
- Each CoVE will be hosted by a regional campus of the Institute or by a wānanga. Should the network of CoVEs grow in the future, I would expect to see an appropriate regional distribution across New Zealand.
- The core purpose of CoVEs will be to drive innovation and excellence in vocational teaching and learning by strengthening links with industry and communities. They will do this by:
 - Growing excellent vocational education provision within the CoVE's area of speciality
 - Sharing high-quality curriculum and programme design across the system
- CoVEs may also undertake some additional functions, such as improving pathways from school into higher-level vocational education.
- A CoVE's scope of coverage could be pan-sector (e.g. primary sector), industry-wide (e.g. agriculture) or occupation-specific (e.g. viticulture), or by type of delivery, for example, kaupapa Māori, online or blended delivery, or foundation education

Future investment in CoVEs

- Further investment in CoVEs will be considered through a future budget process, and any further investment will take account of the distribution of regional and industry needs, as well as any cross-cutting needs

- This further design work will focus how CoVEs will bring additional value to the system, how they might contribute to areas that have less structured support in vocational education (such as the creative industries), and how they interact with other organisations, in particular Workforce Development Councils

Announcements on pilot CoVEs

- I plan to announce my intention to establish two pilot CoVEs in the Primary and Construction sectors in August, following announcements on the wider reforms
- Officials will seek early sector input into the design for these two pilot CoVEs through the Primary Industry's Skills Leaders Working Group and the Construction Skills Action Plan, and are in discussions with the Ministry of Health on the potential for a Health sector CoVE.