

AGENDA

**Strategy session:
Vocational education and training
Wednesday 1 August 2018**

Attendees

Minister of Education, Hon Chris Hipkins

Other Ministers to be confirmed

Ministry of Education: Claire Douglas (lead), Vic Johns, Katrina Sutich, Phil Wise, Mike Woods, Kiri Heel, Andrea Schollmann, Ellen MacGregor-Reid

Tertiary Education Commission: Tim Fowler, Gillian Dudgeon, Amy Russell

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment: Ruth Isaac, Kate Raggett

New Zealand Qualifications Authority: Eve McMahon

Agenda

1. This strategy session is to discuss the vocational education and training (VET) system review.

Item 1: VET system strategy

2. On 5 July 2018, we provided a paper on the VET system review [METIS 1126645 refers]. You provided feedback on the paper earlier this week, indicating that a bolder approach is needed, and that we had given insufficient attention to TEOs' roles in VET.

3. You also noted issues in addition to the ones we have identified in the review. We identified:

Issue 1: Poor skills matching

Issue 2: Inequitable outcomes for some groups of people

Issue 3: Counter-productive, system-driven competition.

4. Your additional issues were:

Issue 4: Unclear roles and inconsistent leadership

Issue 5: Lack of access

Issue 6: Poor inter-connection with the rest of the education sector.

5. In light of this, we propose that the strategy session focus on the goals for VET and the system changes that this would entail.

6. We will table a one-page note explaining our thinking on TEO roles, and how that thinking connects to the proposals in the 5 July advice.

Discussion points:

- a. What are we trying to achieve in VET?
- b. How would we achieve that? Where could we go further?
 - i. What change in TEO roles is required?
 - ii. What would that imply for other policy settings (e.g. funding, information).

Item 2: Other major findings

7. We would also like to seek your views on our main findings from each of the four themes of the review. We propose to briefly summarise our findings for each theme, to open a discussion about it. This would focus on material that was not covered under item 1.

Discussion points:

- a. Views on the approach and proposals not already discussed for each theme:
 - i. A system that is effective for all learners
 - ii. A system that supports, and is supported by, industry
 - iii. A strong network of provision for all regions
 - iv. Work-based learning that adapts to a variety of needs.

Item 3: Practical considerations

8. We would like to discuss the forward timetable for the work, and sequencing with the ITP Roadmap and Budget 2019.
9. There is a discussion with the Future of Work Ministers Group scheduled for 3 September. The focus of this discussion will be identified following this Strategy Session.
10. We will also provide a short briefing tomorrow, seeking permission to write to the sector about next steps for the review, key issues, and what we have heard from stakeholders to date. This is to respond to sector requests for further information, and to support alignment with ITP Roadmap discussions.

Discussion points:

- a. The paper proposes a process with consultation in October/November, leading to final decisions in February (see page 12, paras 47ff). Is this pace right?
 - i. This is tight timing, requiring a draft Cabinet paper and consultation document by late August.
 - ii. A slower process (with consultation in 2019 rather than 2018) would mean VET consultation follows ITP Roadmap decisions, but would mean a longer wait for the sector.
- b. If you agree with our proposed timetable, should we consult with the TCG in September (i.e. in parallel with the Cabinet process)?

- c. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Attached items

- *Shifting to a high-quality, relevant VET system* [METIS 1126645 refers]