



27 September 2018

Kia ora

### **Vocational Education and Training system review update**

I am writing to update you on the Government's review of the vocational education and training (VET) system.

Back in April 2018, the Ministry of Education released advice prepared for the Minister of Education on the scope of the VET system review. At that time we wrote to key stakeholders to tell you about what was happening.

### **Ministry of Education engagement with stakeholders**

In our last letter we asked for your help in sharing the work on the VET system – to test out ideas, discuss what was missing, and identify the main opportunities you saw that would change the system for the better. Many of you have helpfully responded to that request.

Since then, we have visited a number of cities and towns around our regions (including Auckland, Napier, Hastings, Wairoa, New Plymouth, Hawera, Timaru, Dunedin, and Wellington) and met with learners, employers, education providers and their staff and union representatives. We also met with representatives from a range of peak bodies.

We saw some great examples of vocational education and training that really makes a difference for learners, employers and communities. We also saw the points of friction. We have summarised what we heard in four A3s – each one addresses one of the four themes of the VET review – and these are attached to this letter.

We also made use of the Education Summit to gather insights on the wider education sector's views about the VET system. And we made connections to other areas of the Government's education work programme (e.g. to gather schooling perspectives) and with the work of other government agencies.

### **What happened after the engagement process?**

We reported to the Minister of Education in July on our assessment of the state of the VET system, including a summary of stakeholders' views, and the policy challenges these raise. In providing that advice we took into account a range of other information including relevant research, developments in similar education systems internationally, and initial analysis of a new dataset focussed on VET.

Throughout this process we worked closely with the Tertiary Education Commission's project team involved in the ITP Roadmap 2020. This team is working with the network of ITPs on how they can

operate more as a system and ensure a sustainable network. This coordination will continue as we enter the next stage of both projects.

### **What happens next?**

Once the Minister and his colleagues have agreed to the scope of changes to be considered for the VET system, we will prepare a consultation report setting out the range of potential changes.

We will use the consultation report to support a more comprehensive public discussion about VET system change. This will include opportunities for in-person, online and written feedback. We would like to hear your views about what would make the VET system world class and what would raise the profile and esteem of the VET system in New Zealand.

We are aiming for this consultation process to begin in the first quarter of 2019.

Vic Johns (Policy Director, Graduate Achievement, Vocations and Careers) will continue to lead the VET system review through this next stage of the work. You can continue to get in touch with her, and the VET system review team, at: [VET.review@education.govt.nz](mailto:VET.review@education.govt.nz).



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