



## Briefing Note: Reporting on the Delivery Progress of COVID-19 Recovery and Response Funding Initiatives

|   |  |                     |            |
|---|--|---------------------|------------|
| <b>To:</b>                                    | Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education |                     |            |
| <b>Date:</b>                                  | 28 April 2021                            | <b>Priority:</b>    | Medium     |
| <b>Security Level:</b>                        | Budget Sensitive                         | <b>METIS No:</b>    | 1257221    |
| <b>Drafter:</b>                               | Sarah Monnon                             | <b>DDI:</b>         | 6444638901 |
| <b>Key Contact:</b>                           | Melissa O'Carroll                        | <b>DDI:</b>         | 6444637730 |
| <b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b> | Yes / No                                 | <b>Round Robin:</b> | No         |

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is to provide updated COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (CRRF) information that includes expenditures as at 31 March 2021.

**Agree** that this Briefing **not** be proactively released due to budget sensitivities.

**Agree / Disagree**

### Summary

- 1 The report demonstrates the accomplishments and progress towards delivering the 44 CRRF initiatives in Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education. The CRRF has been used to maintain education services, support the recovery of international education and urgently respond to regional and local needs.
- 2 Of the initiatives funded by the CRRF, 33 (75%) are currently being implemented and 11 initiatives (25%) were completed prior to 31 March 2021.
- 3 Of the 33 ongoing programmes:
  - a. 6 initiatives (18%) are **red**, which are off track for spending and unlikely to spend full allocation within the financial year
  - b. 7 initiatives (21%) are **amber**, which have delayed expenditure and we are monitoring closely
  - c. 20 initiatives (61%) are **green**, which are on track to spend the full allocation within the financial year.

- 4 Compared to 28 February 2021, one additional initiative has been identified as being **red** and two additional initiatives have been identified as being **amber**. The initiatives that have changed their status are:

| Initiative Name  | Status as of<br>28 February 2021 | Status as of<br>31 March 2021 |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6. Early Intervention: Te Kohanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative and Targeted COVID-19 Response               | Green                            | Amber                         |
| 21. Support for Group Training Schemes to Retain Apprentices in Preparation Of Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery   | Green                            | Amber                         |
| 23. Transitional Industry Training Organisation and Workforce Development Council-Led COVID-19 Response Projects | Green                            | Red                           |

- 5 Since the February 2021 report, five initiatives have **returned \$238.2 million** to the centre to support Budget 2021 (Cabinet minute CAB-21-MIN-0116.10 [Vote Education] and CAB-21-MIN-0116.29 [Vote Tertiary Education] refers):

| Initiative name  | Funding returned       |
|--|------------------------|
| 8. Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours   | \$5 million            |
| 27. Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours   | \$3.8 million          |
| 14. Sustaining the Early Learning Network (operating contingency)  | \$171.6 million        |
| 24. Critical funding to address supplier contractual obligations arising from the impact of COVID-19 (operating contingency) | \$56 million           |
| 32. International Education Strategic Recovery: Immediate Targeted Support for Private Training Establishments               | \$1.817 million        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$238.2 million</b> |

- 6 Two additional initiatives may require In-Principle Transfers to the next financial year (Annex 1 refers):

9(2)(g)(i)

## Recommended Actions

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The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **Not proactively release** this report due to the content being budget sensitive.

Release/Not release



Melissa O'Carroll  
**(Acting) Deputy Secretary**  
**Strategy, Planning and Governance**

28/04/2021



Hon Chris Hipkins  
**Minister of Education**

9/5/2021

## Annex 1: March Status of Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education Ongoing CRRF Initiatives

| STATUS | DEFINITION   |
|--------|--|
| RED    | Initiatives that are off track for spending and unlikely to spend full allocation within the financial year. |
| AMBER  | Initiatives that have delayed expenditure and we are monitoring closely.                                     |
| GREEN  | Initiatives that are on track to spend the full allocation within the financial year.                        |

| Name<br>(Descriptions in Annex)   | Total 20/21<br>Funding 20/21 |       | Spend to 31<br>March 2021 |      | Forecast Total<br>Spend<br>2020/21 |      | Status | Rationale for Status<br>or Variance   | Comment   |
|---|------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|------|------------------------------------|------|--------|---|---|
| 1. Equitable Digital Access   | OpEx                         | 15.1  | OpEx                      | 11.2 | OpEx                               | 14.9 | GREEN  | The project is progressing as planned, and the spend is tracking to forecast.   | Over 45,000 internet connections have been allocated to households with learners across the country, and over 37,000 devices have been distributed to learners.   |
|   | CapEx                        | 11.1  | CapEx                     | 09.4 | CapEx                              | 10.9 |        |   |   |
| 2. Increasing Trades Academy Places and Supporting Secondary Transitions              | OpEx                         | 6.2   | OpEx                      | 3.0  | OpEx                               | 6.0  | GREEN  | The funding has been fully committed for the 2021 calendar year, which covers 2020/21 and the first 6 months of 2021/22. Three of the seven specialist staff appointments are in the recruitment process. This leads to an underspend of <b>\$0.2 million</b> to date.  | The Ministry is currently engaging with 33 schools in the South Auckland region to proactively connect more learners in need. Specialist staff appointments were expected to be completed during the third quarter of 2020/21. 1,000 additional Trades Academy places have been fully subscribed for the 2021 calendar year, and are also expected to be fully subscribed in the future. The March preliminary reporting indicates that 970 of the 1,000 places have been filled.   |
| 3. Increasing Wellbeing and mental Health support to Learners and Education Workforce | OpEx                         | 74.0  | OpEx                      | 43.8 | OpEx                               | 68.6 | AMBER  | By the end of the year, some components may not fully spend out. The number is not yet certain enough to return, with the exception of the <b>\$2 million</b> underspend that has now been returned for Guidance Counselling provision.<br><b>9(2)(g)(i)</b> . The Urgent Response Fund is responsible for delivering <b>\$38.7 million</b> (88%) of the funds allocated. | As at 31 March 2021, the Ministry of Health was close to establishing a contract with Te Pūkenga. The contract, which was signed on 20 April 2021, will spend \$1.62 million for this financial year and a further \$1.62 million for the next financial year. The contract includes an expectation that the first services will be in place by July 2021. Te Pūkenga are in the process of undertaking a thorough assessment process with their subsidiaries to understand what mental health services are currently delivered to their learners, as well as the gaps and needs to ensure that the funding is used efficiently and effectively.<br><br>The URF is tracking well to be fully spent by the end of the fiscal year. However, the full impact of recent COVID-19 resurgence restrictions has not been realised.<br><br>Other components of this initiative have been slower to implement. Guidance Counselling is now indicating an additional <b>\$1 million</b> underspend due to the additional time needed to evaluate RFP responses. An In-Principal Transfer of this funding has been arranged.<br><br>Staff recruitment for roles associated with this funding is progressing well. |
| 4. Mitigating Impacts of Socioeconomic Disadvantage: School Lunches (op)              | OpEx                         | 106.9 | OpEx                      | 40.9 | OpEx                               | 95.0 | GREEN  | There have been some delays due to supplier arrangements in implementing this initiative compared to the initial timeframes.  | A further 100,000 students have started receiving lunches since the beginning of February, resulting in approximately 150,000 students now receiving a daily lunch. The programme is on track to deliver lunches to 200,000 students by the fourth quarter of 2020/21.<br><br>CRRF funds were supplemented with <b>\$16.1 million</b> in pilot funds, for total of <b>\$123.0 million</b> . Subsequently, <b>\$25.6 million</b> was transferred by fiscally neutral adjustment approved by Cabinet to Providing Access to Free Period Products in Schools and Kura. A further <b>\$7.5 million</b> was transferred into 2021/22, leaving a balance of <b>\$89.5 million</b> . <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b> . This overspend can be covered within the MCA through existing underspends. Accordingly, this should not present an appropriation issue.<br><br>Any overspend in this initiative is to be offset within the Outcomes for Target Student Groups MCA. The January entitlement will change as further payments are made in May and June.  |
|   | CapEx                        | 3.9   | CapEx                     | 1.3  | CapEx                              | 2.5  |        |   |   |
| 5. 100% Qualified and Certificated Teachers (ECE)                                     | OpEx                         | 12.2  | OpEx                      | 1.5  | OpEx                               | 12.2 | GREEN  | This initiative started as planned on 1 January 2021. The actual spend to date is based on the January 2021   |   |

## Annex 1: March Status of Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education Ongoing CRRF Initiatives

| STATUS  | DEFINITION   |
|---------|--|
| ● RED   | Initiatives that are off track for spending and unlikely to spend full allocation within the financial year. |
| ● AMBER | Initiatives that have delayed expenditure and we are monitoring closely.                                     |
| ● GREEN | Initiatives that are on track to spend the full allocation within the financial year.                        |

| Name<br>(Descriptions in Annex)   | Total 20/21<br>Funding 20/21 | Spend to 31<br>March 2021 | Forecast Total<br>Spend<br>2020/21 | Status  | Rationale for Status<br>or Variance  | Comment   |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|--|---|
|   |                              |                           |                                    |         | entitlement, which has been calculated from the payments made on 1 March, 22 March, and 1 April 2021.  | 9(2)(g)(i)<br>The initial entitlement for June 2021 will not be known until later in the year. The total forecast spend is expected to be in line with the total funding of <b>\$12.2 million</b> .   |
| 6. Early Intervention: Te Kohanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative and Targeted COVID-19 Response  | OpEx 1.1                     | OpEx 0.02                 | OpEx 1.1                           | ● AMBER | This project has been delayed by outcome agreement negotiations.   | The Ministry has employed a Māori learning support educational psychologist as a Kaitohutohu Ārahi to work for the Trust full-time on this project until June 2022.   |
| 7. Creatives in Schools   | OpEx 1.6                     | OpEx 1.3                  | OpEx 1.6                           | ● GREEN | The project is progressing as planned. Project governance is working hard to achieve initiative objectives.  | The project is progressing as planned. An additional 23 projects will be funded for 2021 than originally anticipated, bringing the total to 143 projects.   |
| 8. Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours  | OpEx 44.8                    | OpEx 28.1                 | OpEx 39.5                          | ● AMBER | This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return <b>\$5.0 million</b> .<br><br>For the 3-hour average increase, time was required to review individual education plans across the whole cohort of 10,000 verified students, which has led to delays in Terms 3 and 4, 2020.<br><br>Regions are currently estimating that most of the Phase 2 Response Fund will be spent following an increase in applications since the last monthly report. This will continue to be monitored. | This initiative has three elements:<br>1) A 3-hour average increase:<br>Three instalments of this funding have been paid by 31 March 2021. The next payment will be made in Term 2, 2021.<br>2) ORS COVID-19 Response Fund:<br>In Phase 1, 60% of the total Response Fund ( <b>\$18.6 million</b> ) was allocated to schools, 39% of which relates to this budget line.<br>3) TAPEC:<br>The first payment for TAPEC has been made estimated at <b>\$5.1 million</b> . Further payments will be made in throughout the rest of the year.   |
| 9. Maintaining Kōhanga Reo Viability during the Post COVID-19 Rebuilding Phase (previously: Sustaining Kōhanga Reo and Revitalising Te Reo Māori) | OpEx 24.4                    | OpEx 12.1                 | OpEx 24.4                          | ● GREEN | This initiative is progressing as planned. The new property manager appointed by the Trust will see delivery of the property aspects improve.  | No additional payments were made this month due to late invoicing by the Trust. Funding of <b>\$2.4 million</b> , paid in early April, will be reflected next month. The property remediation plan has been received and the Ministry is working with the Trust on project planning and implementation.   |
| 10. NCEA Online: Transforming Assessment for Learners   | OpEx 14.8                    | OpEx 10.1                 | OpEx 14.8                          | ● GREEN | The project is currently tracking in line with budget to the end of the financial year.  | The eventual roll-out of digital assessments across all schools and to all students is dependent on student access to devices, connectivity and on the voluntary 'opt-in' decision of each school.<br><br>The NZQA is currently surveying schools regarding their intention to participate in 2021 digital end-of-year exams. Any returns would seriously compromise the ability to deliver high-impact initiatives for Māori ākonga.   |
| 11. Supporting Māori Learners and Te Reo Māori Post COVID-19  | OpEx 56.0                    | OpEx 3.9                  | OpEx 51.0                          | ● RED   | This fund, which was originally allocated <b>\$60.0 million</b> , transferred <b>\$4.0 million</b> through MBU for a total of <b>\$56.0 million</b> in funding for the 2020/21 fiscal year.<br><br>The majority of this spend is in <b>Te Ahu o te Reo Māori (\$30.6 million)</b> , which is dependent on complex procurement negotiations. Providers have been approved, contract negotiations are underway, and the funding will be committed. 9(2)(f)(iv)<br>9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)        | For the <b>Te Ahu o te Reo Māori</b> programme, 14 providers have been approved. Contract negotiations will be completed in April 2021, and payments will be actioned according to each individual contract.<br><br>Monthly reports on progress for the <b>Whānau Engagement Fund</b> will be provided by each region to provide the most up-to-date information to Ministers. All regions are actively engaging with iwi and working and considering how the Ministry is 'doing things differently.' Putting this into practice is a work in progress for both iwi and Ministry staff and 9(2)(g)(i) |



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|  |                              |                           |                                    |        | 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)  | 9(2)(f)(iv)   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  |   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  |   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  | Expressions of Interest from iwi and hapū on the <b>Kura Whanau Reo (\$2 million)</b> programme and delivery are to be received, evaluated, and contracted in April.  |
| 12. Technology Support for School Children with Learning Support Needs         | OpEx 1.0                     | OpEx 0                    | OpEx 1.0                           | AMBER  | This initiative has been delayed but is anticipated to be delivered in Term 2, 2021.   | A spend of <b>\$0.7 million</b> directly to students and ākonga in schools and kura is anticipated in Term 2, 2021. <b>\$0.3 million</b> is departmental funding to support this activity.  |
| 13. Targeted Support for Pacific Learners and Families (operating contingency) | OpEx 16.2                    | OpEx 2.7                  | OpEx 15.3                          | GREEN  | This initiative is on track. An underspend of <b>\$0.9 million</b> is now being indicated for the translation component of the <b>\$16.2 million</b> fund.   | There will be no underspend for the Pacific Support and Innovation Funds, totalling <b>\$12.4 million</b> . Funding for the Support and Innovation Funds have been split by regions to allow local decisions to be made. Positions have started in March 2021 as a result of the funding.   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  | <b>\$2.6 million</b> has been paid to providers up to the end of March 2021. Regional offices are rapidly working through entering signed funding award contracts into the system and arranging either initial or final payments, depending on the nature of the contract.  |
| 14. Sustaining the Early Learning Network (operating contingency)              | OpEx 206.0                   | OpEx 0.8                  | OpEx Up to \$30 million            | RED    | This initiative has been identified by the Treasury to return <b>\$171.4 million</b> in March 2021.<br><br>There was lower than expected expenditure due to a smaller than predicted disruption to the market and the impact of other support from government, such as the funding guarantee and wage subsidy.   | Ministers agreed to extend the operating contingency until 31 March 2021 (METIS 1244100 refers) to enable consideration of remaining contingency as part of Budget 2021. The initiative has focused on delivering the Sustainability Grant, which closes 30 April 2021. 9(2)(f)(iv)   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  |   |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  |   |
| 15. Targeted Support for At Risk Ākonga (operating contingency)                | OpEx 22.9                    | OpEx 8.9                  | OpEx 14.2                          | AMBER  | The Ministry's delivery of this initiative is on track and forecast to spend the full budget.<br><br>The Ministry of Youth Development's (MYD) funding of <b>\$11.1 million</b> for 2020/21 is part of this appropriation. Clarification is being sought from MYD on any potential underspend. There is currently a forecast spend of <b>\$2.4 million</b> .                               | This initiative is jointly led by MoE and MYD.<br><br>There will be further expenditure over April 2021 as initiatives under the fund are implemented and invoices are received.<br><br>Recruitment FTE for PLD fund was completed in March 2021. Funding for existing PLD requirements to and development of bespoke PLD commenced in March 2021 as planned. |
| 16. Careers System Online: Tiro Whetū  | OpEx 1.2<br>CapEx 8.5        | OpEx 0.1<br>CapEx 4.6     | OpEx 2.3<br>CapEx 5.0              | GREEN  | This initiative delivered the Minimum Viable Product tool in early 2021 as planned. The build is progressing well despite the spend being slower than originally planned.  | The full budget is forecast to be spent by the project's completion in the 2023 financial year.   |
| 17. Adult and Community Education (ACE)  | OpEx 2.2                     | OpEx 0.8                  | OpEx 1.8                           | GREEN  | Most funding is expected to be committed for 2020/21.<br>9(2)(g)(i)  | This initiative is on track to meet its overall goals.  |
|  |                              |                           |                                    |        |  |   |
| 18. Establishing Workforce Development Councils to Support COVID-19 Recovery   | OpEx 46.0                    | OpEx 1.0                  | OpEx 4.0                           | RED    | A highly consultative process to develop Orders in Council for the establishment of Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) has led to the timeframe for their establishment differing to that to that expected at Budget 2020. This means actual expenditure has also differed significantly, resulting in <b>\$42.0 million</b> appropriated for WDCs in 2020/21 no longer being required. | Cabinet's Social Wellbeing Committee invited the Minister of Education to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to prepare Orders in Council (OiCs) for the establishment of WDCs on 24 March 2021 (SWC-21-MIN-0031 refers). The OiCs are expected to be approved in June 2021.   |

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|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------|--|---|
| 19. Maintaining Support for Onshore International Students and International Education                           | OpEx 7.0 (incl. \$3.3 for ENZ) | OpEx 2.5 (ENZ spend to date) | OpEx 7.0 (incl. \$3.3 funding for ENZ) | GREEN  | At end of March, Joint Ministers had agreed to reprioritise \$42m of WDC funding to Industry Training Fund, and that this was confirmed/agreed by Cabinet as part of the Budget package on 12 April.<br>This initiative requires a contingency to be held to cover reimbursements for students where private providers fail as a result of COVID-19. | The WDC Establishment Unit is forecast to spend <b>\$4 million</b> in 2020/21.<br><br>The administration of the Code of Practice and Disputes Resolution Scheme, policy development and advice to support the sector are underway. Promotion, marketing and strategy development, international digital media campaigns, long-term retention strategy development, industry capability and engagement planning for the regions are also underway. This relates to Export Education Levy funded activities for 2020/21.<br><br>The deep-dive workshops with the sector have been completed and a report back to Minister Hipkins is in progress.   |
| 20. Meeting Increased Learner Need for Tertiary Education  | OpEx 79.5                      | OpEx 0                       | OpEx 79.5                              | GREEN  | This is demand-driven funding. Until enrolment data is received in April 2021, it is not possible to accurately forecast spending or variance to budget.<br><br>In advance of the data, it is estimated is that all of the 2020/21 funding will be spent.  | Funding confirmation letters have been issued to TEOs that agree the volume and value of delivery. The TEC will continue to monitor delivery to funding allocations and make additional payments where there is evidence of increased demand. To help match funding to learners' demand, TEOs can continue to apply for additional funding over 2021.<br><br>All remaining available funding is expected to be released to Tertiary providers in May 2021. There is a possibility that demand will be higher than the level of funding available. Any potential overspend on provider-based and/or workplace-based enrolment expenditure may be able to be covered by transferring other funding available within the Tertiary Tuition and Training MCA and/or the TEC's balance sheet funding mechanism. <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED] |
| 21. Support for Group Training Schemes to Retain Apprentices in Preparation of Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery   | OpEx 16.1                      | OpEx 6.3                     | OpEx 16.1                              | AMBER  | Group Training Schemes (GTS) are noting that more time is required to fully spend their allocation in all three priority areas.  | An extension was recently granted by the Minister to extend the GTS' ability to spend its funding through to 30 June 2022 (METIS 1254420 refers). The TEC will soon commence work on extending contracts as appropriate. Future actions will be outlined in an upcoming paper (METIS 1256699 refers). <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]   |
| 22. Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund  | OpEx 160.0                     | OpEx 179.3                   | OpEx 185.0                             | GREEN  | This initiative is on track.   | <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]   |
| 23. Transitional Industry Training Organisation and Workforce Development Council-Led COVID-19 Response Projects | OpEx 10.3                      | OpEx 2.3                     | OpEx 4.9                               | RED    | <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED] This has meant that funding to date could only be allocated to Transitional Industry Training Organisations.   | A total of <b>\$9.2 million</b> has been contracted to projects being undertaken by Transitional Industry <b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br><br><b>9(2)(g)(i)</b><br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br><br>Later in 2021, it will be assessed whether the WDCs will be established in time to utilise project funding by the end of the 2021/22 fiscal year.   |

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|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--|---|
| 24. Critical Funding to Address Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising from The Impact Of COVID-19                      | OpEx 18.0<br>CapEx 89.0      | OpEx 4.3<br>CapEx 1.2     | OpEx 0<br>CapEx 0                  | RED    | <p>The 2020/21 funding is held in contingency. A draw down of the contingency for the expenditure to date was authorised by joint Ministers in April 2021, which included recognition of returning <b>\$56.0 million</b>.</p> <p>The funding return has been due to a smaller than predicted market disruption and fewer than expected claims from contractors. This initiative is reliant on the submission of claims by contractors and as such any forecast would be uncertain.</p> | <p>Evidence indicates that the construction industry has handled the COVID-19 disruption and impacts much better than economic specialists predicted. Due to this, <b>\$56.0 million</b> of the <b>\$107.0 million</b> has been returned to the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund from this contingency fund.</p> <p>9(2)(g)(i)</p> <p>. The Ministry has approved just over <b>\$6 million</b> in claims by the end of March 2021.</p> <p>Expenditure is tracking close to forecast.</p> |
| 25. Enable providers to deliver education offshore and develop quality assurance  | OpEx 0.5                     | OpEx 0.1                  | OpEx 0.5                           | GREEN  | <p>The expenditure is tracking close to forecast although there may be a small overrun into next year. This is being managed, 9(2)(g)(i)</p>   |   |
| 26. Te Mana Tuhono (Network-As-A-Service and Cybersecurity for Schools)   | OpEx 5.8<br>CapEx 21.5       | OpEx 0.1<br>CapEx 3.3     | OpEx 3.1<br>CapEx 4.9              | GREEN  | <p>This initiative is on track against the anticipated progress and the expected end date.</p>   | <p>The Ministry is progressively installing active ICT network management and monitoring equipment for all opted-in State and State-integrated schools. As at 31 March 2021, 239 installs had been completed with high levels of satisfaction.</p>  |
| 27. Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours  | OpEx 19.0                    | OpEx 13.8                 | OpEx 18.7                          | AMBER  | <p>This initiative was identified by the Treasury to return <b>\$3.8 million</b>.</p> <p>Regions are currently estimating that most of the Phase 2 Response Fund will be spent following an increase in applications since the last monthly report. This will continue to be monitored.</p>  | <p>At present, applications are being assessed for Phase 2 of the Response Fund, which makes <b>\$12.4 million</b> available for schools to apply for additional teacher aide support for students who need more help on their return to school.</p>  |
| 28. Providing Digital Identity Required for Online Assessment and Learning  | OpEx 2.6<br>CapEx 2.7        | OpEx 1.0<br>CapEx 0       | OpEx 1.9<br>CapEx 0                | RED    | <p>This initiative is currently reporting an underspend of <b>\$0.7 million</b> OpEx due to timing delays. We are considering whether an expense transfer to 2021/22 is appropriate.</p>   | <p>The project is forecasting lower expenditure in 2021 (<b>\$0.7 million</b>), due to a longer planning cycle through to June 2021.</p>  |
| 29. International Education Strategic Recovery: Communications, marketing and brand awareness                             | OpEx 2.0                     | OpEx 0                    | OpEx 2.0                           | GREEN  | <p>This initiative will be delivered in 2021/22 to better align the timing and approach to New Zealand's border position and opportunity.</p>  | <p>The Minister of Finance has approved an expense transfer of this funding to 2021/22.</p>   |
| 30. International Education Strategic Recovery: Diversification of International Education Products and Services          | OpEx 1.9                     | OpEx 1.5                  | OpEx 1.9                           | GREEN  | <p>This initiative is on track.</p>  | <p>This initiative creates a diversified education offering for international students by providing funding to test, develop and deliver pathways, as well as new products and services to sustain and drive growth in the post-COVID-19 environment.</p>   |
| 31. International Education Strategic Recovery: Recovery Funding For NZ-Based Learners to Access English Language Courses | OpEx 1.5                     | OpEx 1.0                  | OpEx 1.5                           | GREEN  | <p>This initiative is on track.</p>  | <p>The remaining allocated funding will be paid to TEOs in six instalments from January to June 2021.</p>   |
| 32. International Education Strategic Recovery: Immediate Targeted Support for Private Training Establishments            | OpEx 10.0                    | OpEx 7.9                  | OpEx 8.1                           | GREEN  | <p>This initiative is on track, and was identified by the Treasury to return <b>\$1.8 million</b> in March 2021.</p> <p>These funds are surplus due to the TEC not funding L3 CTS Airline Academy as expected. The funding panel deemed there was a significant risk of the provider closing down, so there would be no benefit to distributing this funding.</p>  | <p><b>\$8.1 million</b> has been contracted, and there is <b>\$1.8 million</b> unutilised due to the TEC not providing funding to L3 CTS Airline Academy earlier in the year.</p>   |
| 33. Maintaining Support for International Education (Export Education Levy funded activities)                             | OpEx 0                       | OpEx 0                    | OpEx 0                             | GREEN  | <p>This initiative is on track to start in 2021/22.</p>  | <p>Note: this relates to 2021/22 only.</p>  |



Annex 2: Completed CRRF Initiatives

- 1 Establishing A Student Hardship Fund For 2020
- 2 Support to learners for distance learning while schools, kura and services were closed under COVID-19 Alert Levels 3-4
- 3 Support to schools for online learning: Additional support to learners for distance learning while schools, kura and services were closed under COVID-19 Alert Levels 3-4
- 4 Wage support for school hostel employees due to COVID-19
- 5 Extension of emergency payment for casual staff in the school sector
- 6 Supporting At-Risk Ākonga To Re-Engage and Attend School During The Covid-19 Recovery
- 7 Transition Support for State And State Integrated Schools That Have Lost International Revenue As A Result Of Covid-19
- 8 Continuation of Support for the Casual Schooling Workforce Unable to Work Due to COVID-19
- 9 Funding to support schools to manage the immediate costs of COVID-19
- 10 Support for Schools Payroll
- 11 Ensuring continuity and adequacy of student support – increase in student loans. (Treasury confirmed no need to report on this initiative.)

## Annex 3: Full description of appropriations

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| 1  | <b>Equitable Digital Access</b><br>Provision of devices to students, and provision of internet service to student's households.   |
| 2  | <b>Increasing Trades Academy Places and Supporting Secondary Transitions</b><br>This initiative provides funding for two components:<br>1) Increase in the volume of Trades Academy places by 1,000 places a year from 2021 ongoing. This is intended to give schools more options to meet the needs of their students during the expected economic downturn and it will ultimately help with our recovery by building up our skilled workforce.<br>2) Continue funding for the network of Ministry regionally-based staff to provide specialist support for schools and tertiary education organisations, focusing on learner achievement, retention and transition, and those not in education, employment or training.<br>Led by the Minister of Education.  |
| 3  | <b>Increasing Wellbeing and mental Health support to Learners and Education Workforce.</b><br>This initiative will provide funding to increase the provision of wellbeing and mental health support to learners and the education workforce in response to COVID-19. Led by the Minister of Education.  |
| 4  | <b>Mitigating Impacts of Socioeconomic Disadvantage: School Lunches (op)</b><br>This initiative provides funding to relieve food insecurity and improve educational outcomes for students through expanding the Free and Healthy School Lunch Programme to up to 190,000 more Year 1-13 students. Delivery targets schools with the highest disadvantage using the Equity Index. Before the pandemic around one in five children lived in households with severe or moderate food insecurity. This initiative will help cushion the blow of Covid-19 impacts on students in already socio-economically disadvantaged households who will now be experiencing heightened financial stress, job and income losses. In Term 3 recruitment, planning and systems development will support the scaled-up programme, with expansion of school lunches starting in Term 4. |
| 5  | <b>100% Qualified and Certificated Teachers</b><br>This initiative provides funding to reinstate a higher funding band for teacher-led, centre-based services (i.e. kindergartens and education and care centres) that employ a 100% qualified and certificated teaching workforce. This is expected to improve the quality and frequency of teacher-child interactions, and lead to better learning and developmental outcomes for children in services employing a 100% certificated workforce. COVID-19 is likely to lower demand for early learning services. This initiative maintains employment opportunities for qualified ECE teachers in an environment when fewer services are likely to be operating.   |
| 6  | <b>Early Intervention: Te Kohanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative and Targeted Covid-19 Response</b><br>The Ministry of Education (the Ministry) will partner with Te Kohanga Reo National Trust (the Trust) to co-design and co-deliver targeted strategies and support for the kōhanga whānau (kaiako, parents, whānau) to support tamariki with learning support needs to recover from COVID-19 and reduce the gap in access to learning support. With an emphasis on keeping Kōhanga whānau connected during alert levels enabling a safe return of all tamariki and whānau to Kōhanga.   |
| 7  | <b>Creatives in Schools</b><br>This initiative seeks to expand the Creatives in Schools programme, in which professional artists and creative practitioners partner with schools and kura to share specialist artistic knowledge and creative practice. This is an expansion of an existing initiative, funded through Budget 2019, with the new funding enabling the Ministry of Education to increase the total number of projects from 304 to 510 over the first four years of the programme.  |
| 8  | <b>Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours</b><br>This initiative delivers an increase in teacher aide hours for over 10,000 students in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS). This initiative means schools with ORS students will receive increased funding to employ teacher aides for more hours to help with the transition back to school. Initially this will support high and very high needs students with physical distancing and hygiene practices, however it will also allow schools to respond to the individual needs of the student upon their return to school. Parents will experience greater wellbeing as a result of their children receiving the support they need to return to school safely. Led by the Minister of Education.   |
| 9  | <b>Maintaining Kōhanga Reo Viability during the Post-Covid 19 Rebuilding Phase (previously: Sustaining Kōhanga Reo and Revitalising Te Reo Māori)</b><br>The initiative provides funding to improve the sustainability, capacity and capability of Kōhanga Reo. This will assist the Crown to revitalise te reo Māori and help integrate it into the learning of children by 2025.<br>The initiative will increase the funding rates for each Kōhanga reo and the annual funding the Ministry provides the Kōhanga reo National Trust (the Trust) to support the Kōhanga reo network. The support for the Trust includes funding to assist with assessment of, and associated remedial and rehabilitation work on, Kōhanga reo properties. Led by the Minister of Education and the Associate Minister of Education, Hon Kelvin Davis.                              |
| 10 | <b>NCEA Online: Transforming Assessment for Learners</b><br>This initiative will provide funding to continue to implement digital National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA) examinations. Access to digital external examinations is a critical component of the response to COVID-19 and reflects today's expectations for digitally supported teaching and learning. Building on significant investments already made and progress so far, a flexible sector technology asset will enable digital assessment across all appropriate NCEA subjects and levels. It will support the further development of resilient operating models for assessment undertaken by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, including supporting the implementation of the proposed NCEA changes. Led by the Minister of Education.                                     |
| 11 | <b>Supporting Maori Learners And Te Reo Maori Post Covid-19</b><br>This initiative will: Support Māori learners and whānau to reconnect with education services following COVID-19 to ensure they access the full range of education and wellbeing services and achieve successful outcomes by engaging Iwi and Māori organisations to provide facilitation and brokerage services; It will also strengthen the delivery of Māori Language in Education through enhanced distance- and place-based blended approaches, including targeted support for the education workforce, resource development and information to learners and whānau. Led by Associate Minister of Education, Hon Kelvin Davis.   |
| 12 | <b>Technology Support for School Children With Learning Support Needs</b><br>This initiative will provide funding for school children with learning support needs to access devices or assistive technology to enable them to fully participate in learning, either at home or at school. Led by the Minister of Education.   |
| 13 | <b>Targeted Support for Pacific Learners and Families (operating contingency)</b><br>Tautai o le Moana– Navigators of the Ocean is a professional learning and development initiative designed to strengthen the capabilities of those in leadership, to improve outcomes and support the wellbeing of Pacific learners.  |
| 14 | <b>Sustaining the Early Learning Network (operating contingency)</b><br>This contingency provides support for the viability of early learning services.   |
| 15 | <b>Targeted Support for At Risk Ākonga (operating contingency)</b><br>This contingency provides targeted support for at-risk ākonga.  |
| 16 | <b>Careers System Online: Tiro Whetū</b><br>This initiative enables TEC to develop a free, consistent, accessible, high quality tool for learners and workers to use throughout their lifetime to plan and manage their careers. It will help New Zealanders to understand their transferrable skills and develop a personalised career plan targeting the vulnerable and supporting key government agencies. The tool will help New Zealanders understand the skills they have and their transferability to other jobs; it clarifies job-to-job flows, and raises confidence that their experience has given them skills relevant to jobs in demand. It will help secondary school students to gain line of sight to career opportunities and learning pathways needed, broadening their options to enable good decision-making. Led by the Minister of Education. |
| 17 | <b>Adult and Community Education (ACE) - a modern approach to night classes</b><br>This initiative provides funding for building the capability of providers and expanding the range of Government-funded Adult and Community Education (ACE) to better meet the learning needs of New Zealanders in the post COVID-19 21st century. Led by the Minister of Education.  |

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| <b>18 Establishing Workforce Development Councils To Support Covid-19 Recovery</b>   |
| This initiative provides funding to accelerate the establishment of Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) to give industry greater leadership across the vocational education and training system, and help ensure the delivery of the skills industries need to recover from the impact of COVID-19. WDCs are a foundational component of the Government's Reform of Vocational Education. Led by the Minister of Education.  |
| <b>19 Maintaining Support for Onshore International Students and International Education</b>   |
| This initiative provides funding to offset the shortfall in revenue from the Export Education Levy (EEL). The EEL is paid by providers with international students and the funds are used to deliver services to support international education and international students. As far fewer students are able to study in New Zealand due to COVID-19, the projected EEL revenue is lower than needed to fund the pastoral care services, marketing and promotion activities. We propose to lessen the financial impact on education providers by 'freezing' EEL payments for the last trimester of 2019 and not collecting them for 2020. We are also seeking funding to hold in contingency to cover reimbursements for students where private providers fail as a result of COVID-19. |
| <b>20 Meeting Increased Learner Need For Tertiary Education</b>  |
| This initiative provides funding to manage the cost of funding additional tertiary education enrolments from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023 resulting from the impact of COVID-19, Led by the Minister of Education  |
| <b>21 Support For Group Training Schemes To Retain Apprentices In Preparation Of Post-Covid-19 Economic Recovery</b>   |
| This Supporting Learners and Providers initiative funds Group Training Schemes to continue to employ apprentices whose host employers (primarily small construction businesses) are unable to support them and provide on-the-job opportunities. Retaining these apprentices through the COVID-19 restrictions will enable a quick restart of training once the restrictions are lifted and business opportunities improve for host employers. This will ensure apprentices can continue with their training and become work-ready sooner. Led by the Minister of Education.   |
| <b>22 Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund</b>  |
| Funding vocational learning options fees-free over the immediate period of the economic recession, 2020-2022, to support people to upskill during the economic downturn, within the workplace, or at providers. It would support education and training towards qualifications to meet industry skill needs, and vocational learning for roles that support community wellbeing. It would also include training in smaller learning blocks, which support more flexibility around delivery during the pandemic alert levels and gaps in learners' employment. Led by the Minister of Education.  |
| <b>23 Transitional Industry Training Organisation And Workforce Development Council-Led Covid-19 Response Projects</b>   |
| This Enabling the System to Respond initiative provides funding for projects led by Transitional Industry Training Organisations (TITOs) and Workforce Development Councils (WDCs), involving industries, industry groups and training providers, to:<br>develop local and industry training responses to COVID-19,<br>design alternative arrangements for apprentices who have lost jobs,<br>design with providers learning pathways that work for industries, and<br>review existing training standards and programme components so they are fit for purpose as short packages of learning or as part of changed pathway designs.<br>Led by the Minister of Education.   |
| <b>24 Critical Funding to Address Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising From The Impact Of Covid-19</b>   |
| This contingency provides funding to reimburse school property contractors who have incurred additional unavoidable costs as a result of COVID-19.   |
| <b>25 Enable providers to deliver education offshore and develop quality assurance</b>   |
| <b>26 Te Mana Tuhono (Network-As-A-Service And Cybersecurity For Schools)</b>  |
| This initiative provides essential funding to strengthen the resilience of delivering online learning systems, including NCEA Online. It ensures that schools' aging network hardware is upgraded and cybersecurity protection is installed to tackle the increasing risk of phishing scams, data leaks, and exposure to harmful websites.   |
| <b>27 Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours</b>   |
| This initiative provides funding to address cost pressures arising from the urgent need for an increase in teacher aide hours for more than 10,000 high and very high needs students in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS). The level of student need and resulting demand for teacher aide hours has been higher over the past year than is currently funded, creating an ongoing baseline cost pressure.  |
| <b>28 Providing Digital Identity Required For Online Assessment And Learning</b>   |
| This initiative provides funding to add functionality and identity records to the Education Sector Logon system for secondary schools students so that they can sit NCEA online securely. This logon system could be rolled out across the remaining student cohorts in the school sector in the future at marginal cost to support online enrolment and learning.   |
| <b>29 International Education Strategic Recovery: Communications, marketing and brand awareness</b>  |
| This initiative provides funding to support international education communications, marketing and brand awareness so that we can drive and convert demand when circumstances allow, and ensure that NZ's education brand and reputation do not diminish while borders are closed.  |
| <b>30 International Education Strategic Recovery: Diversification Of International Education Products And Services</b>   |
| <b>31 International Education Strategic Recovery: Funding For NZ-Based Learners To Access English Language Courses</b>   |
| The PTE ESOL Fund has a dual purpose. The funding will help increase demand for English language training, to be met by English Language Schools. In addition, this fund will also help with upskilling and improving the employability of New Zealanders with English language needs, including migrant partners and dependents of New Zealanders.  |
| <b>32 International Education Strategic Recovery: Immediate Targeted Support For Private Training Establishments.</b>  |
| PTE TAF aims to support the stability of PTEs that contribute to regional significance or skill development needs. The providers can then in turn support their regions when international students return.  |
| <b>33 Maintaining Support For International Education (Export Education Levy Funded Activities)</b>  |
| This initiative provides funding to partially offset the shortfall in revenue for the Export Education Levy (EEL). The EEL is paid by providers with international students, and fund key international education pastoral care and promotion services. To support providers, planned legislative changes propose suspending collecting the EEL for 2021 (in addition to 2020, covered by Budget 2020). COVID-19 has seen a significant drop in international student numbers.<br>Led by the Minister of Education.  |