



BRIEFING NOTE: Visit to Pukerua Bay School on Tuesday 13 April 2021

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|---------|
| To: | Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education | | |
| Cc: | Hon James Shaw, Associate Minister for the Environment | | |
| Date: | 7 April 2021 | Priority: | High |
| Security Level: | In Confidence | METIS No: | 1254769 |
| Drafter: | Will Jensen | DDI: | 9(2)(a) |
| Key Contact: | Sharyn Pilbrow | DDI: | |
| Messaging seen by Communications team: | No | Round Robin: | No |

Purpose

- This briefing provides information to support the Minister for Climate Change's visit to Pukerua Bay School on Tuesday 13 April 2021. The purpose of the visit is to announce carbon-reduction projects to be funded through Tranche 4 of the State Sector Decarbonisation Fund.
- **Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree



Kim Shannon
Te Tumu Waihanga
Head of Education Infrastructure Service

7/4/2021



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

12/4/21

PUKERUA BAY SCHOOL (2967)

Contact Name: Chris Els
04 239 9744 (Office)
9(2)(a)

Address: Rawhiti Road
Pukerua Bay

Key People

Board chairperson: Hineawe Green
9(2)(a)

Principal: Chris Els

Ministry Officials: Kayne Good
Learning Support Manager
9(2)(a)

Stephen Cross
Infrastructure Manager
9(2)(a)

Chris Els came to Pukerua Bay School in October 2018 from a Deputy Principal position in Redwood Primary School Christchurch. As part of the Mana Principals' Association, Chris met with Hon Jan Tinetti and Hon Aupito William Sio at Parliament on 11 March 2021, along with local Mana MP Barbara Edmonds to discuss learning support issues in the Mana region.

Visit and event information

Runsheets

| TIME | ITEM |
|---------|--|
| 12.30pm | Minister arrives |
| 12.30pm | Mihi whakatau by principal (Chris Els) and students <i>(No expectation for Minister Shaw to converse in Te Reo or have a waiata)</i> |
| 12:40pm | Tour to see replacement heating Note: This is a live construction site, sign-in to the Contractors work area and PPE will be required Heating contractor: Fantail Services; Construction contractor: Freear Phillip Ltd. |
| 12:50pm | Pukerua Bay Student presentation to Minister Shaw on climate change, followed by student questions to the Minister. |
| 13:10pm | Announcement followed by Q&A |
| 13.30pm | Minister departs |

State Sector Decarbonisation Programme

- 1 The Government has agreed to invest \$50 million towards a programme of coal boiler replacement across the state school portfolio. This builds on an earlier investment of \$4.8 million to replace coal boilers in eight schools, announced in January 2020. The total funding of almost \$55 million will replace up to 90 coal boilers across the schooling network.
- 2 This work is being funded through the \$200 million State Sector Decarbonisation Fund, administered by Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority (EECA). This Fund provides funding and implementation assistance to enable agencies to deliver low-emissions investments, without needing to compete with core service delivery. This funding supports decarbonisation efforts across the whole state sector, not just Education.

What is being announced?

- 3 The Minister for Climate Change is visiting Pukerua Bay School to announce carbon-reduction projects to be funded through Tranche 4 of the State Sector Decarbonisation Fund. Alongside decarbonisation projects within hospitals and tertiary institutions, the Minister will announce a further ten schools that will have coal boilers replaced through the \$54.84m announced in January and September 2020 to remove up to 90 coal boilers from state schools. This announcement brings the total number of projects announced to date to 36.
- 4 The ten schools being announced, and the approximate CO₂ reduction impact, are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Coal boiler replacement projects announced through Tranche 4 of the State Sector Decarbonisation Programme

| School | 12 month coal usage (tonnes) | Tonnes/ CO ₂ p.a. |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Raglan Area School | 34 (estimate) | 68.34 (estimate) |
| Hillcrest High School | 101 | 203.01 |
| Paeroa Central School | 4 | 8.04 |
| Feilding Intermediate | 9 | 18.09 |
| Marton Junction School | 6 | 12.06 |
| Raetihi Primary School | 14 | 28.14 |
| Northern Southland College | 25 | 50.25 |
| Reefton Area School | 50 | 100.50 |
| Buller High School | 60 | 120.60 |
| Westport North School | 50 (estimate) | 100.50 (estimate) |

Information about the coal boiler replacement project at Pukerua Bay School

- 5 The Minister for Climate Change announced the coal boiler replacement project for Pukerua Bay School on 24 September 2020, as part of Tranche 3 of the State Sector Decarbonisation Programme.

- 6 The project is replacing the school's old coal boiler with nine heat pumps across classrooms, the library, administration space and staff room. The coal boiler has already been removed, power system upgrades to cater for the heat pumps are complete, and good progress has been made installing the heat pumps.
- 7 Removing the coal boiler is expected to reduce CO² emissions by 9.5 tonnes per year.
- 8 Other remediation work will also be carried out as part of this project, including removing the old piping system and radiators, a small amount of asbestos removal, and repair of the old boiler room.
- 9 The project's progress has been delayed slightly by a roofing project also underway at the school. However, work is expected to be completed on the boiler project by the end of April 2021.
- 10 The new heat pumps in Block E will be accessible for the Minister to view. He will also be able to view the old boiler room. As an active construction site, the Minister will be required to sign in. Staff will advise all visitors of these requirements at the time.

Other school property-related information for Pukerua Bay School

- 11 Pukerua Bay School has eight teaching spaces which is in line with its entitlement.
- 12 The Board has reasonable property management capabilities and we are not aware of any significant issues with ongoing property works. The school's overall condition is average.
- 13 The school has received \$263k in 'Five Year Agreement' funding, for ongoing capital upgrades and maintenance. We recently topped this up with a further \$458k in supplementary funding to enable priority infrastructure works to be completed. This funding is enabling a project to deliver student toilet and wet area upgrades, electrical work across the site and roof remediation – work which will give the school a solid infrastructure platform to build on with future funding.
- 14 Pukerua Bay School received \$133k through the \$400m School Investment Package. The school has chosen to use this funding for refurbishment of its old dental clinic, heating upgrades in the hall and work on the outdoor learning area.
- 15 A learning support property modification was also completed recently, with \$120k of extra funding provided to provide secure fencing.
- 16 We recently visited the school to meet the Principal and view progress on the school's property projects. No issues were raised with any of the ongoing works.

How will the boiler replacement programme work in practice?

- 17 Boiler replacement projects funded through the State Sector Decarbonisation fund will in most instances be Ministry-managed. We have engaged a programme manager to deliver a number of these projects which will help reduce the property management burden on schools.
- 18 For the most straightforward projects' new heating systems can be installed without the need to replace supporting infrastructure. However, more complicated projects may require some supporting infrastructure to be upgraded or replaced, adding to a project's complexity, cost and delivery timeframe.

- 19 As a first step, EECA will provide an expert heating report that considers the various heating options available in each school's specific context. The size of the school, its existing heating infrastructure, and the local climate are key influencing factors. Coal boilers are generally replaced or converted to low-emission alternatives such as electricity, natural gas, or wood chip boilers.
- 20 The timing and completion of works is impacted by the complexity of the job, whether the work needs to be staged around school terms or other urgent site works, and the need to ensure any replacement system is fully operational for the start of the heating season.

Other background information about Pukerua Bay School

Profile Information

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Authority | State |
| School Type | Full Primary (Year 1-8) |
| School Gender | Co-Educational |
| Education Medium | English |
| Decile | 10 |
| Electorate | Mana |

- 21 The July 2020 breakdown of roll information is shown below:

| July 2020 Roll | Number | Percentage (%) |
|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Māori | 39 | 21.8 |
| Pacific | 2 | 1.1 |
| Asian | 4 | 2.2 |
| Other | 9 | 5.0 |
| European/ Pākehā | 125 | 69.9 |
| International | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 179 | 100 |

Impact of COVID-19

- 22 The school submitted two applications for the Urgent Response Fund (URF). One was approved for \$2,184. The second application was for a property modification and did not meet the criteria for URF.

Schooling network

- 23 Pukerua Bay School is currently implementing an enrolment scheme to help manage its roll. The July 2020 roll was 179 students and the school has capacity for 203 students.
- 24 The school is in the North Porirua catchment which is experiencing roll growth and has the new Plimmerton Farm development of approximately 2,500 new homes. We are

working with all of the schools in the North Porirua catchment on solutions for population growth, such as amending the existing scheme, implementing new schemes, and exploring roll growth solutions.

Education Review Office

- 25 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in March 2018. ERO reported that:

For sustained improvement and future learner success, the school can draw on existing strengths in:

- *high levels of engagement and collaborative partnerships with families, that positively impact on children's learning*
- *an inclusive learning environment, that responds to students' needs, and provides support to promote achievement of equitable outcomes*
- *provision of a broad curriculum, that reflects student's identity, culture and language needs.*

For sustained improvement and future learner success, priorities for further development are in:

- *school planning, that more specifically focuses on goals and targets for promoting accelerated progress for all those students that need it*
- *strengthening internal evaluation, to support leaders, trustees and teachers to know what is working well and what needs to change to improve outcomes for all children.*

- 26 ERO is due to return to the school this year.

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 27 The School belongs to the North Porirua Kāhui Ako.

- 28 The Kāhui Ako consists of 11 Schools and 14 Early Learning Services. These are:

| School Name | ECE Name |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adventure School | Active Explorers Mana |
| Aotea College | Adventure Kindergarten |
| Discovery School | Ascot Park Kindergarten |
| Papakowhai School | Discovery Kindergarten |
| Paremata School | Educare Adventure |
| Pauatahanui School | Mana Montessori Preschool Inc |
| Plimmerton School | Papakowhai Kindergarten |
| Postgate School | Paremata Kindergarten |
| Pukerua Bay School | Paremata Playcentre |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Rangikura School | Pauatahanui Preschool Inc. |
| St Theresa's School (Plimmerton) | Plimmerton Kindergarten |
| | Pukerua Bay Kindergarten |
| | Sand Dunes Quality Early Learning Centre |
| | Whitby Educare |

- 29 The North Porirua Kāhui Ako is in the process of refreshing its achievement challenges. Through the Kāhui Ako the school has built relationships with local Kaiako.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 30 The school is not eligible to opt-in to the School Donations Scheme because it is decile 10.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 31 The school is ineligible for the programme.

Access to Period products

- 32 Pukerua Bay School has recently opted into the Access to Period Products Initiative.

Learning Support Coordinators

- 33 The school does not have access to a Learning Support Co-ordinator (LSC) as the North Porirua Kāhui Ako did not receive an allocation.
- 34 Although the school has not directly raised concerns around access to an LSC, the Kāhui Ako principal group has been very vocal about not having access to LSCs, as the two other Kāhui Ako in Porirua have an allocation of four each.

Creatives in schools

- 35 Pukerua Bay School applied for Round 2 of Creatives in School but was unsuccessful. They did not apply for Round 1 in 2019.

Proactive release

- 36 We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be redacted in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

Annex I: Communications material

Annex I: Communications Material – State Sector Decarbonisation Tranche 4 announcement

Reactive media Q&As

How were the schools selected for this next tranche of replacements?

These schools have been selected as they have the oldest and poorest condition coal boilers, which we'd like to replace using this tranche of funding.

When will the coal boilers in 10 schools announced as part of Tranche 4 be replaced?

In some cases, work is already underway and we expect the coal boilers will be replaced by the end of the 2021 calendar year.

What will they be replaced with?

Coal boilers are replaced or converted with low-emissions alternatives – either electricity or biomass, for example, wood chip or wood pellet boilers.

Is it a complicated process?

In some cases, replacing a coal boiler can be straightforward, but in others it can be an extensive and time-consuming process.

For the most straightforward projects, new boilers can sometimes utilise all existing supporting infrastructure at schools. However, for other more complicated projects, the supporting infrastructure at schools can require upgrade or replacement, which adds to a project's complexity and costs and can take longer.

When will all schools be available to receive funding to replace their coal boilers?

The State Sector Decarbonisation funding is administered by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA). This funding is for decarbonisation efforts across the whole state sector, not just Education.

How many schools still use coal boilers?

About 200 schools still use coal boilers.

How can schools not covered by this funding remove or replace their coal boilers?

Schools are able to use their 5YA funding to remove or replace their coal boilers.

Can't schools fund the removal of coal boilers themselves? Why does this work need to be funded?

In some cases, schools can afford to replace coal boilers themselves, however it can be time consuming and expensive, and requires schools to balance competing priorities for funding.

We want schools to be able to replace their coal boilers as a priority, and not at the expense of other important school property works.

What about other fossil fuels and sources of school CO² emissions?

Heating is the single biggest source of schools' carbon dioxide emissions, and coal's carbon dioxide emissions (per kilowatt of heat) are higher than that of alternative fuel sources that schools could use. We are focusing our efforts on where we can 'lock in' the greatest emissions reductions.

How many boilers will be replaced through the \$55m investment?

We expect this funding will allow us to replace up to 90 coal boilers from schools by 2022/23.

Why isn't the Ministry replacing all coal boilers as a priority?

EECA are working with the Ministry and other government agencies to determine how to best use the [\\$200 million](#) for comprehensive emissions reductions across the entire state sector. Replacing coal boilers is a key component of this work, but there will be other equally important projects.

Is it acceptable to have coal boilers in schools?

[Government Procurement Rules](#) specifically prohibit state agencies from installing new coal boilers and the [Ministry's standards](#) are in line with these.

Why haven't any northern schools had their coal boilers funded?

These schools have been selected as they have the oldest and poorest condition coal boilers, which we'd like to replace using this tranche of funding.

Where are the schools from Tranche 1, 3 and 4?

Waikato Region:

- Miller Avenue School
- Meremere School
- Raglan Area School
- Hillcrest High School
- Paeroa Central School

Wellington Region:

- Greytown School
- Ohau School
- Pukerua Bay School
- TKKM o Wairarapa

Taranaki Region:

- Manukorihi Intermediate

Whanganui area:

- Ohakune School
- Ruapehu College
- Feilding Intermediate
- Marton Junction School
- Raetihi Primary School

Otago Region:

- Waitaki Boys' High School
- Big Rock Primary School
- Rosebank School (Balclutha)
- The Catlins Area School
- Opoho School

Southland Region:

- Murihiku Young Parents' Learning Centre
- Newfield Park School
- Dipton School

- Edendale School
- Invercargill Middle School
- Pukerau School
- Waikaka School
- Wallacetown School
- Waverley Park School
- James Hargest College
- Fiordland College
- Te Anau School
- Northern Southland College

West Coast Region

- Reefton Area School
- Buller High School
- Westport North School