



Education Report: Consulting the Regulations Review Committee on tertiary learner wellbeing and safety proposals

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	12 April 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1256383
Drafter:	Jenni Barrett	DDI:	s 9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Kieran Forde	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is for you to sign and send a letter to the Regulations Review Committee (the Committee) to consult it on the draft replacement Code and related consultation material.
2. In 2020 and 2021, you corresponded with the Committee about the Education (Pastoral Care of Domestic Tertiary Students) Interim Code of Practice 2019 (the Interim Code) [METIS 1245064, 1249916 and 1252531 refer]. In response to its concerns, you made minor and technical changes to the Interim Code which were presented to the House and made public on 31 March 2021 [METIS 1252531 refers].
3. You also informed the Committee that you would consult it on a draft replacement Code once it was prepared [METIS 1245064 refers]. Under Standing Order 326(2), a Minister may refer draft regulations to the Committee for consideration and the Committee may report on the draft regulations to the Minister.

Recommended Actions


The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **sign and send** the draft letter to the Regulations Review Committee (**annex 1**)

☒ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**
- b. **proactively release** this Education Report once decisions have been made, with any redactions in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

☒ **Release** ☐ **Not release**


Julie Keenan
Policy Director
Te Ara Kaimanawa
12/04/2021


Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
23/ 4 /2021

Annex 1: Draft letter to the Regulations Review Committee

Chris Penk MP
Chairperson
Regulations Review Committee
Parliamentary Buildings
Wellington

Dear Chair,

In 2020 and 2021, I corresponded with the Chair of the Committee about the Education (Pastoral Care of Domestic Tertiary Students) Interim Code of Practice 2019 (the Interim Code). In response to concerns raised by the Committee, I made minor and technical changes to the Interim Code which took effect from 31 March 2021.

The Interim Code will be replaced by an ongoing Code by 1 January 2022. In earlier correspondence, I indicated that during the development of the replacement Code, officials will undertake work to ensure that:

- the empowering provisions are fit for purpose;
- the replacement Code better delivers the outcomes sought; and
- the processes that the code administrator will use are adequately supported in legislation and regulation.

The development of the replacement Code will also take account of any recommendations resulting from the Inquiry into Student Accommodation that was launched by the Education and Workforce Select Committee in 2020.

I previously indicated that the Committee would be consulted on a draft replacement Code once it was prepared. The Ministry of Education has opened formal public consultation on the draft replacement Code for all tertiary and international learners, a new dispute resolution scheme for domestic tertiary learners, and proposed law changes to support learner wellbeing and safety. The consultation is open from 7 April until 21 May 2021. Details can be found on the Ministry of Education's Kōrero Mātauranga website: www.conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/wellbeing-and-safety.

I welcome any written feedback from the Committee on the draft replacement Code and wider consultation material.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

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