



Briefing Note: Background information and speech notes for Te Rito Maioha event

To:	Hon Jo Luxton, Associate Minister of Education		
Date:	16/8/2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1314358
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

You will be attending an event held by Te Rito Maioha on Friday 25 August as a part of their ketekete mai conference. This briefing provides you with background information and speech notes to support your attendance at this event.

Proactive Release

1. **agree** that this Briefing Note is proactively released, with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Agree / Disagree

Siobhan Murray
Senior Policy Manager
Te Pou Kaupapahere

16/08/2023


Jo Luxton MP
Associate Minister of Education
25/8/23

Background

Event details

1. Te Rito Maioha is holding a conference from Thursday 24 to Sunday 27 August at Te Papa. The theme of the conference is ketekete mai – make a noise for ECE.
2. On Friday 25 August, conference attendees will come to parliament to present a petition and listen to speeches from MPs. You have been asked to give a 5–7-minute speech about your vision for ECE at this event. Speech notes are included in Annex 1.
3. A petition will be presented to an MP, likely Angela Roberts, at 9:45am on parliament grounds. You are not required to attend this session. The petition calls for an adult:child ratio of 1:4 for children under three-years-old in ECE. This does not align with action 1.1 of the Early Learning Action Plan, which outlines a ratio of 1:4 for under two's and 1:5 for 2-year-olds.
4. The speeches session will begin at 10:30am in the Banquet Hall. Your speech will be first, followed by speeches from other MPs and a Q&A session. You are not required to attend the speeches from other MPs and the Q&A session.
5. Te Rito Maioha expects 300+ attendees at the petition presentation and a minimum of 200 attendees at the speeches and Q&A session.

Background on Te Rito Maioha

6. Te Rito Maioha is a membership organisation that provides advocacy, advice and leadership to its members. The organisation is responsible for negotiating the Early Childhood Education Collective Agreement of Aotearoa New Zealand (ECECA) with NZEI on behalf of member employers. Te Rito Maioha is also a tertiary education provider that offers early childhood education qualification programmes.
7. The Chief Executive of Te Rito Maioha, Kathy Wolfe, is a member of the Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC). The organisation also has membership on the Early Learning Regulatory Review Sector Advisory Group 9(2)(a) and the Review of Equity and Targeted Funding Sector Reference Group (Clare Wells).
8. On 25 January 2023, Te Rito Maioha sent an open letter to the Minister outlining the organisation's 5-point action plan. The 5 points were also reiterated as a priority for the organisation in the invitation for this event. These points are covered throughout the speech notes in Annex 1. The 5 priorities are as follows:
 - Improve child-teacher ratios so that tamariki can thrive, learn and be safe with quality education and attention from teachers.
 - Create and implement a meaningful strategic workforce plan to attract, retain and develop a professional, culturally responsive ECE teaching workforce from within Aotearoa New Zealand.
 - Fund ECE services sufficiently to deliver quality education to tamariki and pay kaiako what they are worth, fairly and equitably without charging high fees to parents.
 - Urgently replace the outdated, dysfunctional ECE funding model to meet the real needs of today's working whānau, tamariki and ECE services.

- Simplify regulations to support quality education delivery without over-burdening ECE services with repetitive, labour-intensive paperwork from multiple government agencies.

Annexes

The following are annexed to this paper:

Annex 1: 9(2)(g)(i)