



Briefing Note: Agenda Items for December 14 ECAC meeting

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
CC:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Date:	12 December 2022	Priority:	Low
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1301952
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This paper provides you with a briefing on the agenda items ahead of the Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) members' meeting on Wednesday, 14 December 2022. The paper includes an overview of agenda item content for the meeting.

Summary

1. The purpose of ECAC is to foster a relationship between Government and the early learning sector to achieve common goals. ECAC is made up of senior representatives from early learning sector organisations and the Ministry of Education.
2. You have agreed to speak at the upcoming ECAC meeting on Wednesday, 14 December from 11:15am – 11:45am. The meeting is being held in the Catherine Room at The Mercy Conference Centre, 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington.
3. It is likely that ECAC members will raise and share their members' and services' experiences with you on several key aspects of the Early Learning Action Plan work programme, including extended pay parity, network management provisions and teacher supply.

Proactive Release

- a **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you and the meeting has taken place.

Agree / Disagree



Nancy Bell
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Mahau | Te Tai Runga

12/12/22

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

 / /

Background

4. ECAC was established to bring employer peak bodies, large providers, and union groups together to provide advice on the operation of early childhood education at a national level.
5. Currently the group includes 30 members who meet quarterly, in addition to more regular operational meetings in recent times.

The following agenda items will be discussed with ECAC members:

- a. Te Mahau and the Ministry's Organisational Change.
 - b. Curriculum: Literacy & Communications and Maths Strategy.
 - c. Network Management.
 - d. Annual ECE Census.
 - e. Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP).
 - f. A workshop session on Modern Regulation.
6. Ministry officials will speak to these agenda items, providing an update or overview on specific streams of work. A brief overview of each item is provided for you below.
 7. A copy of the agenda for this meeting is attached as Annex One.
 8. Due to timing of the work programme this ECAC there will not be an update on Teacher Supply or a substantive update on Pay Parity. We anticipate both items will feature on the next ECAC face to face agenda in March when we anticipate more substantive updates to share with members.

Update on Te Mahau and the Ministry's Organisational Change

9. Te Mahau Hautū will provide a high-level overview of the confirmed changes to the Ministry's organisational structure. This will include how early learning will be where key early learning positions will be located within the new structure and how the early learning roles and functions of Te Mahau and Te Tāhuhu will work together.

Early Learning Action Plan

10. The Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP) Dashboard is updated on a quarterly basis to track progress of the five objectives that form the ELAP. The key updates for the quarter September 2022 to December 2022 are:
 - a. Scoping work for Tranche 3 of the Early Learning Regulatory Review is underway.
 - b. Work is continuing on the new equity index for ECE with the next Sector Reference Group in early 2023.
 - c. An overview of consultation feedback on gazetting Te Whāriki is now publicly available online.
 - d. The November funding payment was the first opportunity for services to opt into the new extended pay parity funding rate, which comes into effect on 1 January 2023.
 - e. New network approval regulations were gazetted in early October and take effect on 1 February 2023.
11. On 13 December Pay Parity opt in information will be published. An overview of this information will be discussed as part of this session.

Network Management

12. The Ministry team will update ECAC on final preparations for Network Management ahead of go live on 1 February 2023. This will focus on the work that is currently underway to ensure providers are aware of the new network management requirements.

Annual ECE Census

13. We will discuss some of the data collections throughout the year, the issues with response rates, and how this information is used to inform policy development and monitoring. Out of this we want ECAC members support to identify additional approaches and ways that these collections can be more successful in 2023.
14. This section will also give ECAC members an update on the ELAP evaluation work.

Curriculum: Literacy & Communications and Maths Strategy

15. There is currently a Contributor's Group (including early learning representatives) who are developing high level principles and pedagogies for the common practice model. The presentation will cover the outcomes of discussions to date and how Kōwhiri Whakapae contributes. We will also update members on the progress of Kōwhiri Whakapae.

Workshop on Modern Regulation

16. The workshop will focus on work we have recently undertaken on modern regulation. This will include an overview of the work and an opportunity for ECAC members to provide thoughts and feedback on the work and on the Ministry's role as a regulator.

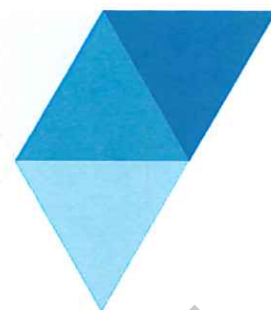
Next Year's ECAC Dates

17. At the conclusion of the day, we will confirm next year's quarterly ECAC dates. We are proposing:
 - a. 8 March 2023
 - b. 7 June 2023
 - c. 6 September 2023
 - d. 6 December 2023
18. Your office has confirmed that the potential dates work at this stage with your diary.

Annexes

Annex 1: ECAC 14 December Agenda

Proactively Released



Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC)
14 December 2022
9:00am to 3:00pm

Location	Catherine Room Mercy Conference Centre 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon
Chair	Nancy Bell
Secretariat	Catherine Wright
Apologies	Iona Holsted, Calmar Ulberg, Heather Taylor, Karen Reynolds, Jayne Franklin, Karen Affleck, Lee Jones
Circulated before meeting	Apologies, minutes, actions
Guests	Hon. Chris Hipkins; Minister of Education

#	Topic	Sponsor	Paper/ Oral	Start time
1	Welcome, karakia and introductions			9:00
	(a) General welcome to all	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(b) Karakia	Cathy Wilson	Oral	
	(c) Member movements	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(d) Apologies	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(e) Confirming September minutes and actions	Nancy Bell	Paper	
2	Update on Te Mahau and the Ministry's Organisational Change	Nancy Bell Jocelyn Mikaere Isabel Evans Sean Teddy	Presentation	9:10
	Morning tea			10:00
3	ELAP Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay Parity 	Nancy Bell John Brooker	Oral	10:15
4	Network Management Update	Felix Mussell & Laurie Edwards	Oral	10:40



Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC)
14 December 2022
9:00am to 3:00pm

5	Annual ECE Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELAP Evaluation update 	Tom Dibley	Oral	10:55
6	Minister of Education	Hon. Chris Hipkins	Oral	11:15
7	Curriculum update Literacy & Communications and Maths Strategy	Jane Ewens Ann Pairman Giles Panting	Presentation	11:45
	Lunch break			12:15
8	Workshop session: Modern Regulation		Workshop	1:00
	(a) Introduction to Modern Regulation	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(b) Workshop outline	Josie Glasson	Oral	
	(c) Overview of work undertaken to date on modern regulation	Josie Glasson	Oral	
	(d) Group discussions and plenary	All	Oral	
	(e) Reflections and wrap up	Nancy Bell	Oral	2:45
	(f) Meeting schedule for 2023. Proposed dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 March 7 June 6 September 6 December 	Nancy Bell	Oral	2:55
9	Closing Karakia	Cathy Wilson	Oral	3:00