



Education Report: Establishing Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as a Secondary-Tertiary Programme (Trades Academy) Lead Provider

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)		
Date:	9 February 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1303482
Drafter:	Rebecca Weir	DDI:	04 463 2878
Key Contact:	Kieran Forde	DDI:	04 463 7697
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This report seeks your agreement to recognise Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (TWoA) as a secondary-tertiary programme (Trades Academy) Lead Provider under Schedule 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act). We seek your agreement by 17 February 2023 to allow time to inform TWoA and to publish a Gazette notice early this year, so TWoA can begin provision mid-2023.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- agree** to recognise Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as a secondary-tertiary programme Lead Provider under the Act, via publication of the attached Gazette notice
- sign** the attached letter to Nepia Winiata, Kaiwhakatere | Chief Executive of Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, informing him of this decision

Agree/Disagree

Agree/Disagree

- c. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing, following the publication of the attached Gazette notice, with any redactions in line with the Official Information Act 1982.

Agree / Disagree

Alasdair Saunders



**Acting Senior Policy Manager
Tertiary Education**

9/2/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Education

14/02/2023

Background



- 1 Trades Academies are the most common form of secondary-tertiary programme. They provide access to a range of trades or technology learning opportunities to senior secondary students, which are delivered through partnerships between schools, tertiary education organisations, and employers. Programmes involve learning in secondary and tertiary settings and may include work experience.
- 2 The key purpose of a Trades Academy is to support student engagement in education and provide pathways from school to further vocational education and employment. They are aligned with the Vocational Pathways to deliver an NCEA or equivalent qualification and a programme that leads to a trades related nationally transferrable tertiary qualification at levels 1, 2 or 3. Trades Academies also aim to improve connections between schools and business/industry needs.
- 3 Trades Academies are funded on a pro-learner rate, which is split depending on how long the learner spends in school or in a tertiary education provider. School Lead Providers are funded by the Ministry of Education and tertiary education Lead Providers are funded by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC).
- 4 There are currently 23 programmes in place supporting delivery across all regions of the country. Eleven of these programmes are led by Te Pūkenga, one is led by Land Based Training (a Private Training Establishment) and the remaining eleven are led by schools. School Lead Providers generally work in partnership with tertiary education providers including Te Pūkenga and Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, to deliver tertiary component learning.

Process to establish a secondary-tertiary programme Lead Provider


- 5 Schedule 8 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act) sets out the legislative framework for an organisation to be established as a Lead Provider of a secondary-tertiary programme.
- 6 There are three main steps to work through to do this:
 - a. **Step One: Ministerial recognition (current step).** Under clause 5 of Schedule 8 of the Act, the Minister of Education may recognise an eligible organisation as the Lead Provider of a secondary-tertiary programme, via the publication of a Gazette Notice. This is the first step that enables the Ministry and TEC to consider the approval of the programme and its arrangements and funding.
 - b. **Step Two: Secretary for Education approval of the programme.** Under clause 6 of Schedule 8 of the Act, a Lead Provider may co-ordinate a secondary-tertiary programme if it has made an arrangement for the safety, welfare and educational programmes of participating students that is agreed to by the Secretary for Education.
 - c. **Step Three: Funding agreement.** This is to be put in place by TEC.

Ministerial recognition of Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as the Lead Provider of a Secondary-Tertiary Programme

- 7 TWoA has submitted an application to the Ministry to be a Lead Provider, with a provisional name of 'Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Trades Academy'. TWoA is an "institution" under the Act, so is eligible to become a Lead Provider.

- 8 TWoA previously had an application in progress to become a Lead Provider, but this was placed on hold in 2018 due to some operational issues [METIS 1133170 refers]. In 2022, TWoA indicated that it was interested in restarting this proposal and it has submitted a new application. This new application takes into account that some time has passed since 2018, and the wider context for the proposed Trades Academy has changed significantly, particularly due to the Reform of Vocational Education changes.
- 9 Key information in the new proposal includes:
- TWoA already has some experience delivering secondary-tertiary programmes to kura and schools via existing Trades Academies. It is currently involved in small scale delivery in the Bay of Plenty Futures Academy (Trident High School-led), the Waikato Trades Academy (Te Pūkenga-led) and the Te Taitokerau Trades Academy (Tikipunga High School-led).
 - 9(2)(b)(ii)

 - 9(2)(b)(ii)

- 10 The TWoA proposal is particularly important as this would be the first wānanga-led Trades Academy programme. This would provide opportunities and improved options for Māori ākonga, particularly for those ākonga learning in Māori medium kura and wharekura. Their establishment as a Lead Provider would support fulfilment of our Te Tiriti obligations and align with the objectives of government education strategies including National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP), Action Plan for Pacific Education, and the Learning Support Action Plan.
- 11 The Ministry, in consultation with the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), has assessed the application and is satisfied that TWoA is in a position to operate a Trades Academy. Therefore, we recommend that you agree to recognise TWoA as a Lead Provider under the Act.

Next Steps

- 12 A draft Gazette notice recognising TWoA as a Lead Provider is attached in Annex One for your approval. If you approve and agree to sign the notice we will work with your office to arrange for its publication in the NZ Gazette as soon as TWoA has been informed of your decision. We will also work with your office to present the Gazette notice to Parliament in accordance with secondary legislation requirements.
- 13 Subject to your agreement, we have attached a draft letter for you to sign and send to the Chief Executive of TWoA formally notifying him of TWoA's recognition as a Lead Provider (annex two).
- 14 9(2)(f)(iv)


Secretary for Education Approval and Funding agreement

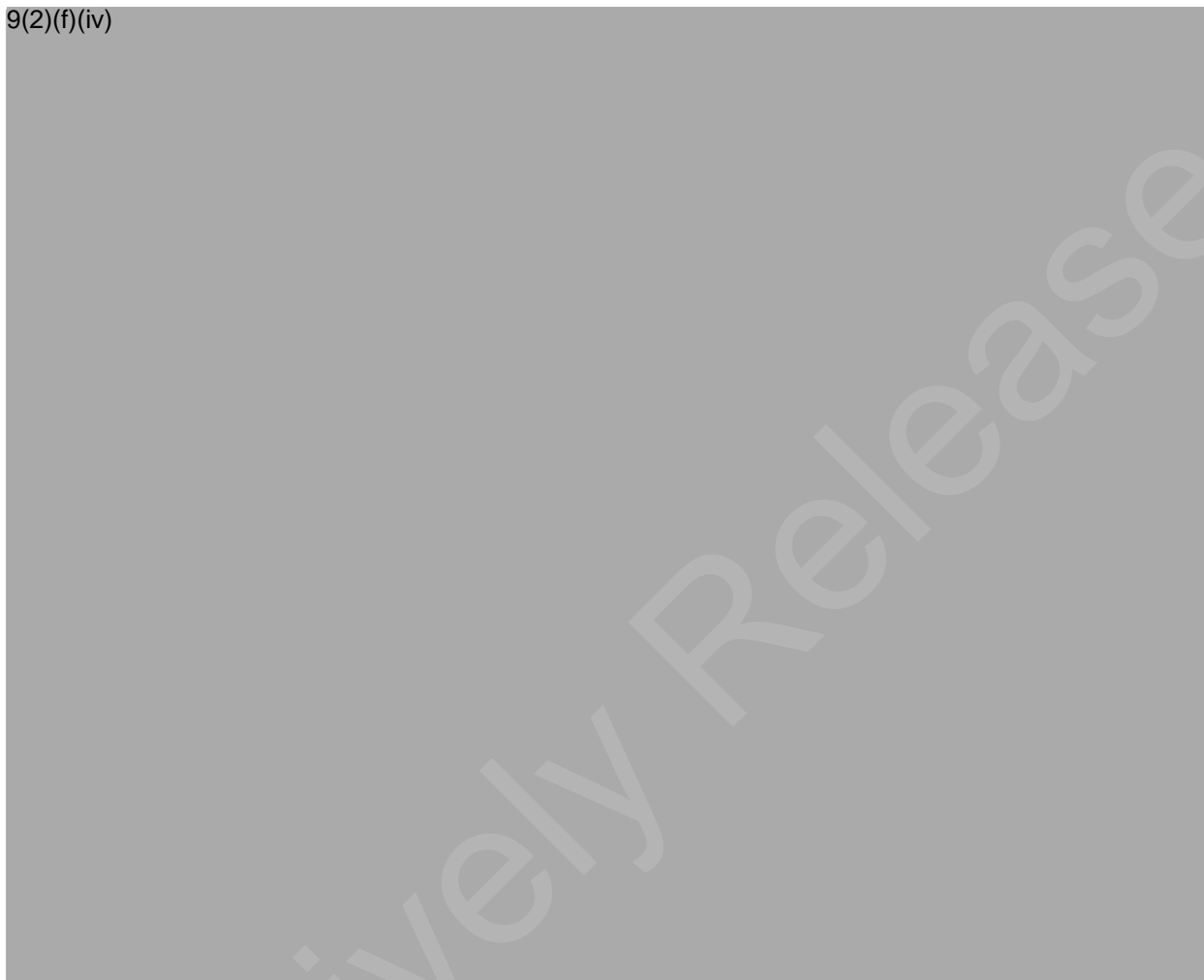
- 15 Subject to your agreement to Step One, once the Gazette notice has been published and the Chief Executive of TWoA has been notified, the Ministry and TEC will continue to work with TWoA on Steps Two and Three of the establishment process. This includes:
- a. Step Two - we will work with TWoA to seek approval from the Secretary for Education; and following this
 - b. Step Three - TEC can put in place a funding agreement for the provision of the Trades Academy programme.
- 16 As noted above, TWoA is proposing to start in mid-2023 so we will be working towards completing these steps in time to enable this.

Annexes

Annex One: Gazette notice recognising Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as a secondary-tertiary programme Lead Provider

Annex Two: Letter to Chief Executive of Te Wānanga o Aotearoa

9(2)(f)(iv)



Proactively Released

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Education
Minister for Women
Minister for Child Poverty Reduction



9(2)(f)(iv)

9(2)(f)(iv)