



Briefing Note: International Education forum 13 July 2021

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins		
Date:	9 July 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1264164
Drafter:	Laurie Teal, Senior Policy Analyst	DDI:	
Key Contact:	Jeet Sheth, Senior Policy Manager	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

The paper provides you with background information, an agenda, and a speech for your forum with the international education sector in Auckland on 13 July 2021.

Agree that this Briefing will be proactively released following the forum.

Agree / Disagree

Summary

- Following your meeting with international education sector peak bodies on 11 May 2021, you asked for an opportunity for you to speak to a wider sector group to set out your priorities for international education.
- You will address an audience of approximately 175 sector and government representatives (130 in person and 45 online).
- This is an opportunity for you to update them on the border situation, set out your vision of a smaller, higher-value sector, signal some of your priority work streams, and announce consultation on a draft Policy Statement on Value in International Education.



Belinda Himiona
Group Manager International Education
Te Ara Kaimanawa

9/7/21

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

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Background

1. You met with international education sector peak bodies on 11 May 2021 to respond to concerns they raised through workshops held by Education New Zealand and the Ministry of Education focussed on the recovery of the sector. You followed up this meeting with a letter to the sector setting out your priorities for international education.
2. Following the 11 May meeting, you also requested an opportunity to address a wider sector audience. This forum provides you with the opportunity to:
 - personally express support for the recovery and rebuild of the international education sector to a wide audience
 - repeat some of the messaging you have already delivered, setting the desired direction for the sector
 - update the sector on border developments and related government decisions
 - answer any questions
 - announce upcoming consultation on a draft policy statement on value in international education
3. A list of invitees was developed with your office that includes peak body representatives and other sector leaders and practitioners. A number of officials from across international education agencies will also be in attendance to demonstrate a joined up approach, to answer questions during the formal portion of the meeting, and to interact informally with the sector both before (lunch) and after (afternoon tea) the meeting.
4. The peak body representatives among the sector attendees have heard your vision for international education and are familiar with details of the border management and how it will continue to impact international education. Other sector attendees will be less aware of these issues. You may receive questions from a wide variety of angles reflecting varying levels of understanding.
5. The following supporting documents are provided with this briefing:
 - Annex 1: Agenda for the forum
 - Annex 2: Sector panel biographies
 - Annex 3: Q&A
 - Annex 4: List of attendees
 - 9(2)(f)(iv)
6. We have attached a final draft version of your speech for the forum. It includes two announcements:
 - 9(2)(f)(iv)
 - Consultation on the draft policy statement on value in international educationBoth of these items are being considered by Cabinet on 12 July 2021. These announcements may need to be adjusted pending the outcome of Cabinet decisions.
7. Please note that the two-hour meeting will be live-streamed and recorded. Officials will consult your office on subsequent sharing of the recording with members of the sector who do not attend the event.

Format of the forum

8. The two-hour forum will immediately follow the networking lunch. It will proceed as follows (see Annex 1 for detailed timeline):

12.00pm	Networking Lunch
1.00pm	Forum begins; Welcome by mana whenua Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei [TBC] and introduction and housekeeping by MC Julian Wilcox
1.10pm	Minister's address followed by Q&A
1.55pm	Panel discussion followed by Q&A
2.45pm	Minister's closing remarks
2.58pm	MC closes the forum
3.00pm	Forum closes followed by afternoon tea
3.30pm	Event closes

9. You have expressed a preference for a sector-only panel during the second part of the meeting to give the sector an opportunity to respond to what they have heard from you during the first half. The sector panel has been developed with your office and will include (see Annex 2 for biographies):

Sub-sector	Panellist	Position
International Students	Afiqah Ramizi	National President, New Zealand International Students Association (NZISA)
Universities	Professor Jan Thomas	Vice-Chancellor, Massey University and Chair of Universities New Zealand
Te Pūkenga	Stephen Town	Chief Executive, Te Pūkenga
PTEs	Claire Bradley	Chief Executive, Aspire2 International and Deputy Chair, Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand (ITENZ)
English language	Darren Conway	Managing Director, Languages International and Chairman, English New Zealand
Schools	John van der Zwan	Executive Director, Schools International Education Business Association (SIEBA)
Education Products and Services	Richard Allan	Chief Executive, Biozone International and Council Member, Publishers Association of New Zealand

10. Senior officials from agencies will be on hand to answer sector questions at any point in the programme. You may wish to call on any of the following if more technical answers are required:

Agency	Name	Position
ENZ	Grant McPherson	Chief Executive
TEC/ MoE	Tim Fowler	Chief Executive Tertiary Education Commission Acting Secretary for Education
MoE	Andy Jackson	Acting Deputy Secretary, Graduate Achievement, Vocations and Careers
NZQA	Eve McMahon	Deputy Chief Executive, Quality Assurance Division
MBIE	Ruth Isaac	General Manager, Labour and Immigration Policy
INZ	Steve McGill	General Manager, Strategy, Engagement and Education

Key Risks and Benefits

11. As COVID-19 has impacted education sectors quite differently, it is a challenge to find unified messaging to speak to them together. Proposed answers to questions in the attached Q&A have been formulated with a mixed sector audience in mind.
12. While we expect the meeting to have a positive, hopeful tone, the global situation suggests that there is continued waiting and frustration ahead. It may be helpful to accept that there will be “down” moments in the meeting.

13.

9(2)(g)(i)

COVID-19 Alert Level Change Contingency

14. In the event of a change to COVID-19 Alert Levels, our contingency is to move to a completely virtual event format using ENZ's virtual events platform EventsAIR OnAIR. A member of your office will be trained in using this platform on Friday 9 July to support your participation if a virtual format is required.

Proactive Release

15. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released following the forum.

Annex 1: Agenda

Noon	Registration and networking lunch
1.00 pm	Forum begins Welcome by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Introduction and housekeeping by Julian Wilcox, MC.
1.10 pm	Minister's address and Q&A session You will be introduced by the MC. A lectern is provided for your address. Cameras will record proceedings for the live stream. At the conclusion of your remarks, the MC will ask you to join him on the chairs on stage for the Q&A session with delegates. Attendees will be given an opportunity to ask questions; they have been advised to include their name and institution at the start of the question and to keep their questions concise so as many questions can be answered as possible. Senior officials from MoE, ENZ, NZQA, MBIE Policy and INZ will be on hand (seated in front row of the audience) to provide technical advice if required.
1.55 pm	Panel discussion and Q&A session The panel discussion will be facilitated by the MC and will involve an international student representative and representatives from six international education sub-sectors (refer Annex 2). Panellists will be asked questions regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their reaction to your remarks and the subsequent discussion • The key challenges their sub-sector / members are facing • The opportunities they see in recovery. Attendees will then have an opportunity to ask questions of the panellists. Again, senior officials from MoE, ENZ, NZQA, MBIE Policy and INZ will be on hand (seated in the front row of the audience) to provide technical advice if this is required. At the end of the panel discussion, panellists will be asked to share their top hope or wish for the recovery of the sector – this may provide useful signposts to reflect back in your closing remarks.
2.45 pm	Minister's closing remarks The MC will invite you back to the lectern to provide your concluding remarks to the sector, taking into account the panel discussion.
2.58 pm	Closing of forum The MC will close the Forum, thanking you and the sector representatives for participating.
3.00 pm	Forum closes Afternoon tea served for delegates.
3.30 pm	Event ends Attendees depart.

Annex 2: Sector panel biographies

Panelist	Biography
 <p>Afiqah Ramizi National President, New Zealand International Students Association</p>	<p>Afiqah is a fourth-year medical student from Malaysia, studying at the University of Auckland. She was elected National President of the New Zealand International Students Association in 2020. In 2019, Afiqah was the International Students' Officer of Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA) and a member of NZISA Rep. Council. Afiqah has said that over the course of several years studying in Auckland, she has realised it is never easy being an international student: "Every year international students are faced with new challenges affected by an international education sector that is rapidly progressing." Afiqah aims to help ease the stages for international students to survive in this country, supported by a committed team of council members consisting of locally elected international student leaders.</p>
 <p>Professor Jan Thomas Vice-Chancellor, Massey University and Chair of Universities New Zealand</p>	<p>Professor Jan Thomas commenced as Vice Chancellor of Massey University in January 2017. From 2012, Jan served as Vice-Chancellor and President at the University of Southern Queensland in Australia, following various senior executive positions at Murdoch University and the University of Notre Dame Australia. Professor Thomas has a PhD in Veterinary Science from Murdoch University and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute for Company Directors. She has received numerous awards for her leadership in education. Professor Thomas is the Chair of Universities New Zealand, Chair of the Quality Assurance Council, and a member of the University Grants Committee.</p>
 <p>Stephen Town Chief Executive, Te Pūkenga</p>	<p>Stephen Town was appointed Chief Executive of the newly formed New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology in 2020. He is a former Chief Executive of Auckland Council, and has held executive positions for over 20 years in tertiary education, local government, and transport. Previous roles include leading the Franklin District and Tauranga City Councils, and Regional Director of the NZTA in Northland/Auckland. His first chief executive role was at Wanganui Regional Community Polytechnic in 1994, making him the youngest CE in New Zealand at the time.</p>
 <p>Clare Bradley Chief Executive, Aspire2 International and Deputy Chair, Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand</p>	<p>Clare Bradley became Chief Executive of Aspire2 International in September 2016, having joined Aspire2 Group in March 2015. Clare is a lawyer with a background in commercial litigation. Her experience has encompassed work as an advocate in all of our courts (including the Privy Council) and she has worked as in house legal counsel for media entities in addition to undertaking regulatory compliance responsibilities. Clare's community work has seen her contribute to the leadership of a high performing swimming club and serve on parent groups at the schools her children attended including a period on the board of trustees for Epsom Girls Grammar School.</p>

 <p>John van der Zwan Executive Director, Schools International Education Business Association</p>	<p>John van der Zwan has been Executive Director at SIEBA since January 2016. John served on the Establishment Board of the Schools International Education Business Association (SIEBA), which formed in 2014 out of the school sector Strategic Roadmap development process. John had previous sector experience as International Director at Waihi College. SIEBA's purpose is to provide leadership, increased business capability, greater collaboration, and stronger representation for international education in New Zealand schools. As the peak body for schools, SIEBA plays a key role in supporting consistent growth in quality, professionalism, and value in international education.</p>
 <p>Darren Conway Managing Director, Languages International and Chairman, English New Zealand</p>	<p>Darren Conway is the current Chairman of English New Zealand. He is Managing Director and co-owner of Languages International. After completing his RSA Prep Cert in London in 1989 he taught in Cairo, London, and Sydney, before starting as a teacher at Languages International, Auckland, in 1993. Darren has extensive experience in the industry as a teacher, teacher trainer, lecturer, textbook writer, examiner and exam item writer, marketer, and manager.</p>
 <p>Richard Allan Founder and Chief Executive, Biozone International</p>	<p>Richard Allan is a former high school biology teacher with a passion for bringing this subject to life for students wanting to learn more about this ever-expanding subject. Founded by Richard in 1988, BIOZONE International Ltd is a leading New Zealand-based educational publishing house with sales offices in the USA, UK and Australia. BIOZONE specialises in the production of high-quality instructional materials (both print and digital versions) for high school science for use throughout the world. Biozone's core products are its student books published for whole-course programmes. BIOZONE's books are translated into several languages worldwide including Polish, Slovenian, Japanese and Chinese. Richard is also a past council member of the Publishers Association of New Zealand (PANZ).</p>

Annex 4: In-person attendees

(Note that there will be around 40 additional attendees online, who are not named below.)

Universities		
Jan Thomas	Vice-Chancellor	UNZ
Chris Whelan	Chief Executive	UNZ
Dawn Freshwater	Vice-Chancellor	U of Auckland
Brett Berquist	Director International	U of Auckland
John Hosking	Deputy VC Strategic Engagement	U of Auckland
Meredith Smart	Group Director International	AUT
Guy Littlefair	PVC Intern'l & Dean Design, Creative Tech	AUT
Sharon Calvert	Director, International Office	U of Waikato
Alister Jones	Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor	U of Waikato
Christopher Carey	International Director	Massey U
Tere McGonagle Daly	D VC, Students & Global Engagement	Massey U
Matthew Eglinton	Assoc Dir, Intern'l Recruitment	Victoria U
Grant Guilford	VC; Chair, Common University Policy,	Victoria U / UNZ
Roger Shew	Director International	Lincoln U
Lorraine Petelo	Asst VC (Teaching & Learning)	Lincoln U
Tracey Wilson	Dir Recruitment, Marketing & Coms	U Canterbury
Jason Cushen	Director International	U of Otago
Tony Ballantyne	Dep VC External Engagement	U of Otago
Te Pūkenga		
Stephen Town	Chief Executive	Te Pūkenga
Chami Abeysinghe	International Director	SIT
Leon Fourie	CE Toi Ohomai (CE rep for intern'l)	Te Pūkenga
Megan Gibbons	Chief Executive	Otago Polytechnic
Gus Gilmore	Chief Executive	UNITEC/MIT
Christopher Handscomb	International Director	MIT
Chris Collins	Chief Executive	EIT
Dave Christiansen	Chief Executive	WINTEC
Beth Knowles	International Director	Ara
Jon Smith	International Director	Northtec
John Snook	Chief Executive	WITT
Will Tregidga	Head of International Development	NMIT
Bryan Read	International Director	Whitireia and WelTec
Girish Nair	International Director	WINTEC
Peter Richardson	International Director	Toi Ohomai
PTEs		
Wayne Dyer	Chief Executive	ITENZ
Clare Bradley	Deputy Chair	ITENZ
Craig Musson	Chair	ITENZ
Julie Delaney	Acting College Director	KAPLAN
Tommy Honey	Secretariat	QTI
Richard Kensington	Principal Academic Relations	UP Education
Mark Rushworth	Group CEO	UP Education
Brijesh Sethi	Chair	QTI

Tim McFarlane	Chief Sales & Marketing Officer	UP Education
Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie	Owner	ICL Education Group
Jennifer Zhang	Marketing Manager	Byron International
Darryn Melrose	General Manager	Media Design School
Dr Lehan Stemmet	President	Auck Inst of Studies
English language schools		
Kate Herbert	Principal	Kiwi English Academy
Darren Conway	Chairman	English New Zealand
Scott Granville	Co-founder and Managing Director	Chasing Time English
Esther McErlain	Manager	M Maunganui Lang Cent
Kim Renner	Executive Director	English New Zealand
Ben Woollen	Co-founder	Chasing Time English
Daryl Streat	President	TESOLANZ
Students		
Christiaan Bredenkamp	Student Representative	Otago Poly Auckland
Kevin Guo	Public Relations	NZISA
Afiqah Ramizi	President	NZISA
Linda Yan	Cultural Officer, Students' Association	Massey Albany
Schools		
John van der Zwan	Executive Director	SIEBA
Jennifer Kirkham	Operations Manager	SIEBA
Vaughan Couillault	President	SPANZ
Rachel Fenton	International Director	Auckland Grammar
Steve Hargreaves	Principal	Macleans College / President APA
Jayne Jones	Deputy Principal International	Long Bay College
Kath Kemp	International Director	Waitakere College
Mike Williams	Principal	Pakuranga College
Louise Silvester	Director of International Students	Avonside Girls' High
Terry Kraettli	International Director	Epsom Girls / SIEBA bd
Bronwyn Watts	International Director	Mount Albert Grammar
Lynda Lidgard	International Director	Rangitoto College
Maz Roberts	International Director	Mount Maunganui Col
Craig Rosengrave	International Director	Burnside High School
Colleen Steyn	International Director	Middleton Grange Sch
Katrina Piezzo	International Director	Green Bay High School
Deborah James	Executive Director	ISNZ
Products and Services		
Madelize Bekker	Founder	EduMaxi
Richard Allen	Founder & CEO	BioZone International
Duane Grace	Founder & EdTechNZ Council	EDU Systems Limited
Brittany Teei	Founder	KidsCoin
Catriona Ferguson	Director	PANZ
Dame Wendy Pye	CEO	Wendy Pye Group
Paul O'Farrell	Bus Dev and Partnership Manager	ELA
Amber Taylor	CEO	ARA Journeys

Peter Dong	Founder and CEO	VR Voom
Loreen Carlos	Owner/Director	ITEAM
Education agents		
Jono Clark	Director	EcoQuest
Frank Xing	Director, Brand Strategy	Novo Education
Bridget Egan	Founder & Managing Director	Global Student
Lina Gonzalez	Managing Director	SEA International
Maureen Hayes	Owner	Worldwide
Arun Jacob	Founder & CEO	AJV Global
Lize Le Roux	Educ Consultant / NZ rep	IDP
Regional agencies		
Rachael Berndt	Talent Advisor	Venture Taranaki
Santha Brown	Programme Manager Destination	Study Auckland
Melissa Gillingham	Regional Relationship Manager - IE	Education Tauranga
Matt Carrere	Manager Workforce & Bus Growth	WellingtonNZ
Ria Brejaart	Academic Director	EcoQuest Educ Found
Stefi Porter	Partnership Manager - IE	ChristchurchNZ
Henry Matthews	Head of International Education	Auckland Unlimited
Officials		
Grant McPherson	Chief Executive	ENZ
Laura Simpson	Director Industry	ENZ
James Dalmer	Engagement Manager	ENZ
Paul Irwin	GM Partnerships & Marketing	ENZ
Di Solomon	Director Government and Stakeholders	ENZ
Dr Linda Sissons	Board Member	ENZ Board
Daniel Wilson	Board Member	ENZ Board
Hon Steve Maharey	Chair	ENZ Board
Tim Fowler	Acting Secretary for Education	MoE
Belinda Himiona	Group Manager Intern'l Policy	MoE
Andy Jackson	Deputy Secretary	MoE
Laurie Teal	Senior Policy Analyst	MoE
Jeet Sheth	Senior Policy Manager	MoE
David Choat	Advisor	Office of Min of Educ
Paul Stocks	Deputy Chief Executive	MBIE
Ruth Isaac	General Manager, Policy	MBIE Policy
Catriona Robinson	Acting Dep Secretary of Immigration	MBIE INZ
Steve McGill	General Manager	MBIE INZ
Celia Coombes	Sector Strategy Manager	MBIE INZ
Emma Verry	Policy Officer	MFAT
Eve McMahon	Deputy Chief Executive	NZQA
Nicola Sutton	Policy Manager	NZQA
Sushrutha Metikurke	Commercial Manager, NZ G2G	NZTE