



Briefing Note: Consultation on the Policy Statement on Value of International Education

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	16 July 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In confidence	METIS No:	1266444
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

At the International Education forum on 13 July 2021, you have announced consultation on a draft a Policy Statement on high value within international education. This paper highlights the latest changes to the Value statement and how the consultation process will look like.

Recommendations

We recommend that you:

- a) **Agree** to the Ministry publicly consulting on the draft Policy Statement on high value for international education

☒ Agree / ☐ Disagree

- b) **Agree** that this briefing will be proactively released once the policy statement on value has been released for consultation

☒ Agree / ☐ Disagree

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16/07/2021

Given the international audience here we need to interpret the term Akonga whenever it is used. Please use "Akonga/Student" to make it more accessible.



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

17 / 7 / 2021

Background

1. On 1 July 2021 you had a meeting with the International Education Ministers [METIS 1263797 refers]. One of the discussed items on the agenda was the draft Policy Statement of high value for international education. Based on the meeting with international education ministers, we have provided you with an updated version on 9 July 2020 [METIS 1265605 refers].
2. At the International Education Forum on 13 July 2021, you announced a consultation on this 'high value' strategic shift signalled in the International Education Strategy 2018-2030.
3. The focus of the New Zealand's International Education Strategy 2018-2030 is to shift international education from a revenue-focussed industry attracting high volumes of students, to one that focuses on quality of education, and a range of values to New Zealand. We want to emphasise the contribution international education makes to research and innovation, our domestic education system, our labour system, our global relationships, and to the cultural richness of our institutions and communities.
4. To accelerate the 'high value' strategic shift, an agreed understanding of what 'value' means can provide a clear basis for policy and decision making, and transparency to the sector on the proposed direction. The draft policy statement (Annex 1) and summary A3 (Annex 2) provides a definition of 'value'. Meaning a system that:
 - provides excellent education and student experience
 - targets and attracts students in high value markets
 - delivers a range of value benefits, like cultural, diplomatic, economic to New Zealand with minimal risks.
5. The draft policy statement also considers potential changes in policy settings and the draft statement also signals the key markets and students we will focus on to drive the strategic shift.

Changes to the policy statement of high value

6. Based on the discussions at the International Education Forum, we have made the following changes to the policy statement:
 - We added an introduction that explains the consultation process.
 - We changed the word '*student*' in to '*ākonga*'.
 - We mentioned the importance of sub-degree programmes with a strong connection between study and work, and where any work rights meet labour market tests.
 - We highlighted the importance of post-graduate and professional degrees.
 - We adjusted the language to ensure we focus more on the students' perspective.
 - We aligned the language more with your speech at the International Education Forum.
 - We adjusted minor editorial changes to ensure the statement is suitable for the wider public.

Next steps

7. The written consultation process will be publicly accessible, and we propose that it opens on Wednesday 21 July 2021 and closes on Friday 3 September 2021. The consultation material will be sent to all attendees of the forum. The Ministry of Education will also host in person sessions to engage with international education sector representatives during week 3 of the consultation process.

Proactive release

8. This briefing will be proactively released once relevant decisions have been made, as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.