



Briefing Note: Meeting with Early Childhood Education (ECE) Sector Leaders on Friday 28 July 2023

To:	Hon Jo Luxton, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Date:	20 July 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1314513
Drafter:	Megan Hutchison	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Nancy Bell	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This paper provides you with material to support you at your meeting with early childhood education (ECE) sector leaders on Friday 28 July 2023 to discuss matters relating to a review of ECE funding.

Note: the Minister did not attend this event

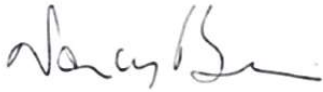
Summary

1. You have requested that the Ministry of Education convene a workshop with members of the Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) to consider what a review of the ECE funding model might look like and the impact this might have on ECE work programmes.
2. The workshop will run from 9.00am-3.00pm on 28 July 2023. The venue is Te Wāhanga Atawhai Mercy Conference Centre, 15 Guildford Tce, Thorndon, Wellington.
3. The Workshop Agenda as Annex 1, and a list of ECAC attendees is provided as Annex 2.
4. You are scheduled to attend and address the group from 9.15-9.45 am. Talking points are included in this briefing as Annex 3.
5. We expect ECAC members may have questions or comments about funding, pay parity, the 20 Hours ECE subsidy and the review process. Some suggested responses are included as Annex 4.
6. Following the workshop, we will provide you with a summary of the views expressed by participants.

Proactive Release

7. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full after the funding workshop on 28 July 2023 has taken place.

Agree / Disagree



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

20 / 07 / 2023



Hon Jo Luxton
Associate Minister of Education

1 / 8 / 2023

Proactively Released

Background

1. In response to feedback on the recent pay parity funding review and the extension of 20 Hours ECE to two-year-olds, you have asked us to convene a workshop for ECAC members to discuss the possibility of a wider review of ECE funding settings.
2. The purpose of this workshop is to provide an opportunity for sector representatives to share their thoughts on the scope and process for a first principles review of the ECE funding model.
3. The workshop will also examine the timelines that might apply and the impact such a review might have on the sequencing of other parts of the ECE work programme.
4. Following the workshop, the Ministry will provide you with further advice, and include a summary of the views expressed by the representatives. We propose that the attendees will have the opportunity to review the workshop summary before it is sent to your office.

The workshop

5. The Agenda for the workshop is attached as Annex 1.
6. The first part of the day will be devoted to delegates sharing their views. Three focusing questions have been provided in advance, to help facilitate productive conversations in this part of the workshop. These questions are:
 - (a) *What should the goal(s) of a funding review be? (i.e., what should it aim to achieve?)*
 - (b) *What are the core principles of a funding system we would want to consider as part of a first principles review? What should be in or out of scope?*
 - (c) *What would a good review process look like? How would we ensure that all voices are heard?*
7. The intention for these sessions is for the Ministry to listen, and gather information on what is important to sector groups in terms of the goals, principles, scope and ideal process for a funding review. We want to ensure that all parties are able to share their views and have these reflected in the summary of the day.
8. In the afternoon sessions, the Ministry will share some of the practical considerations around different approaches to a review. This will include information on the Government processes that would need to be worked through, and their implications. Sharing high level details around workstreams, timelines and costings from previous reviews and other relevant consultations will support these conversations.
9. We will also work through the potential impact on other work programmes that may need to be delayed, separated out, or integrated into any funding review and record the group's views on the risks and trade-offs associated with the various scenarios.

The attendees

10. Members of ECAC were invited to attend this workshop, or to send a delegate in their place. As at 20 July, seventeen organisations have confirmed they are sending representatives. A list of participants is included as Annex 2.

11. The day will be facilitated by Nancy Bell, Hautū – Deputy Secretary, Te Tai Runga. Andy Jackson, Hautū – Deputy Secretary, Te Pou Kaupapahere, and John Brooker, General Manager ECE and System Policy, Te Pou Kaupapahere will also lead sessions.
12. Support for table discussions, note taking and the broader secretariat function, will be provided by members of the Ministry's ECE teams.

Your role

13. You are scheduled to attend the workshop from 9.15am-9.45am. We would like you to provide the opening address and set your expectations for the workshop with those present. Some suggested talking points are included as Annex 3.
14. We recommend some time be left open for you to receive questions from the group. The sector has been corresponding with you frequently on issues related to funding. We have provided some potential questions and responses as Annex 4.

Annexes

The following are annexed to this paper:

- Annex 1: Agenda
- Annex 2: List of ECAC attendees
- Annex 3: Talking points for Minister's address
- Annex 4: Backpocket questions and answers

Annexes 3 and 4 withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i)

**Early Childhood Advisory Committee Funding Review
Workshop
28 July 2023
9:00am to 3:00pm**

Location	Te Wāhanga Atawhai Mercy Conference Centre 15 Guildford Tce, Thorndon, Wellington
Facilitator	Nancy Bell
Guest	Hon Jo Luxton; Associate Minister of Education

#	Topic	Presenter/Session Facilitator	Start time
1	Welcome, karakia and introductions Purpose of the meeting and protocols for the day	Nancy Bell	9:00
2	Opening address: Associate Minister of Education	Hon Jo Luxton	9:15
3	Context setting: What we heard from the Pay Parity Funding Review	John Brooker	9:45
	Morning tea		10:00
4	Workshop session: Goals and principles underpinning a funding review	Nancy Bell	10:15
5	Workshop session: Scope of a funding review	Nancy Bell	11:00
6	Workshop session: Characteristics of a good review process	Nancy Bell	11:30
7	Introduction to the afternoon's discussion	Nancy Bell	12:15
	Lunch		12.30
8	Practical considerations	Andy Jackson	1:00

9	Workshop session: Testing opportunities, risks and trade-offs of some possible approaches to a funding review	Andy Jackson	1:30
10	Reflections: Summarising what we've heard and should share with Ministers	Nancy Bell	2:30
11	Closing karakia	Nancy Bell	3:00

Proactively Released

Annex 2: List of ECAC attendees

As at 20 July, the list of confirmed attendees is below. Some members are sending alternates for this workshop. The list also indicates whether the person or organisation was a signatory to letters from the “ECE sector leaders” group. (Note that some organisations wrote their own letters to you about a funding review; this is not reflected in the table.)

Attendee	Alternate?	Organisation	Letter
Kelly Seaburg		Advocates for Early Learning Excellence	Y
Catherine Neill	Alternate of Pauline Winter	Auckland Kindergarten Association	
Rebecca Chatwin	Alternate of Heather Taylor	Barnardos New Zealand	Y
Fiona Hughes		BestStart	Y
Lisa Thomas	Alternate of Liza Iliffe	Christian Early Childhood Education Association of Aotearoa	
Simon Laube		Early Childhood Council	Y
Christine Hall		Early Childhood Leadership Group	
Raewyn Overton-Stuart		Home Early Learning Organisation (HELO)/Paua Early Childhood Home Based Care Service	Y
Allanah Clark		NZEI Te Riu Roa	
Cathy Wilson		Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand (MANZ)	Y
Wahi Los'e	Alternate of Tere Gilbert	Ngā Puna Reo o Aotearoa	
Samantha Christians		NZ Home-based Early Childhood Education Association	
Jill Bond		NZ Kindergartens Network	Y
Hellen Puhipuhi		Pasifika Advisory Group	
Susan Bailey		Playcentre Aotearoa	
Cherie Marks		Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust	
Kathy Wolfe		Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood NZ	Y