



Briefing Note: Agenda Items for June 15 ECAC meeting

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	Friday 10 June 2022	Priority:	Low
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1288646
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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, 15 June 2022. The paper includes an overview of agenda item content for the meeting.

Summary

- 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.
- You have agreed to speak at the upcoming ECAC meeting on Wednesday, 15 June. It is likely that ECAC members will want to hear from you on the recent Budget 2022 announcements and to share their members' and services' experiences with you.

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



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

10/6/22

15/6/2022

Background

1. 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.
2. Currently the group includes 30 members who meet quarterly, in addition to more regular operational meetings in recent times.
3. You are meeting with the group for 45 minutes. As part of your Minister's update, members may ask questions relating to Budget 2022.

The following agenda items will be discussed with ECAC members:

- a. Pay Parity Funding Review
 - b. Early Childhood Regulatory Review
 - c. Curriculum Update
 - d. A workshop on progress on the Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP).
4. Ministry officials will speak to these agenda items, providing an update or overview on specific streams of work in the Early Learning space. A brief overview of each item is provided for you below.
 5. The workshop on ELAP will be led and facilitated by Professor Carmen Dalli and Professor Alex Gunn, chair and member of the ELAP Ministerial Advisory Group.
 6. A copy of the agenda for this meeting is attached as Annex One.

Pay Parity Funding Review

7. This item will provide a high-level overview of the work undertaken so far as part of the Pay Parity Funding Review. This will include sharing with ECAC the working principles and assumptions that underpin the draft model, as well as the draft funding system we are exploring.

Early Childhood Regulatory Review

8. This item will give an update on the progress of the Early Learning Regulatory Review, including the following workstreams which are part of Tranche 2 of the Review:
 - a) Regulating for 80% qualified teachers.
 - b) Strengthening the person responsible requirements in teacher-led, home-based, and hospital-based services.
 - c) Implementing network management.
9. It will also outline the early work underway to scope and plan for Tranche 3 of the Review, which includes key actions from the Early Learning Action Plan such as improving adult-to-child ratios (ELAP 1.1).

Curriculum Update

10. The presentation will socialise ECAC with the Literacy & Communication and Maths Strategy and highlight key opportunities for the early learning sector.

11. In the presentation, we will note that the Strategy supports the Early Learning Action Plan and its focus on better supporting children to develop capabilities that are valued by their whānau and community, and the intention to gazette the goals and learning outcomes of Te Whāriki.
12. The presentation will also note that we have already released *Te kōrerorero – Talking together* and are working with kaiako on Kōwhiri Whakapae, which will help kaiako to strengthen formative assessment and teaching practice. The presentation will convey our intention to continue to work with the sector as we develop detailed action plans to support the Strategy.

Workshop on Progress on the Early Learning Action Plan

13. At the last quarterly ECAC meeting in March 2022, ECAC members discussed the need to reframe the quarterly ECAC meetings to include more in-depth strategic discussions and the opportunity to workshop important topics. Members agreed that these meetings would be complemented by more regular operational meetings as required.
14. The workshop at this ECAC meeting focuses on undertaking a deeper dive into progress the ELAP at ECAC members' request. We will share the latest ELAP dashboard which tracks progress of the five objectives that form the ELAP.
15. Professor Carmen Dalli will open the workshop which will be facilitated by Professor Alex Gunn, both members of the ELAP Ministerial Advisory Group.
16. We will evaluate the workshop and factor this into planning for future ECAC quarterly meetings.

Annexes

Annex 1: ECAC 15 June Agenda