



Briefing Note: Meeting with Mātauranga Iwi Leaders' Group

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)		
Date:	20 June 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1312494
Drafter:	Ngaire Molyneux	DDI:	(09) 632 9317
Key Contact:	Adrienne Darrah	DDI:	(04) 443 95347
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

1. This paper provides background information and draft talking points for your consideration prior to your meeting with Olivia Hall, Chair of Mātauranga Iwi Leaders Group, Maxine Graham, Lead Advisor of MILG and Rahui Papa, Chair of Pou Tangata National Iwi Chairs' Forum (NICF), on 22 June 2023 via Teams.

Summary

2. Following your meeting with Pou Tangata co-chairs and the chair of the Mātauranga Iwi Leaders' Group (MILG) on Thursday 30 March, MILG requested ongoing meetings with you. The first of your bi-annual hui with MILG is on Thursday 22 June, from 10.30am - 11am.
3. Pou Tangata is the social development pou of the National Iwi Chairs Forum. As part of this pou, or portfolio, the Ministry of Education work with the MILG.
4. The MILG advocate (from iwi collectively and locally) on matters of national importance within the education system that impact akōnga Māori and their whānau (noting that iwi retain their right to engage with the Ministry independently).
5. The MILG's work is underpinned by four key drivers:
 - Advocacy and influence,
 - Equity,
 - Wellbeing of whānau, and
 - Acting collaboratively by sharing information.
6. The Mātauranga Iwi Leaders Group is interested in discussing the following topics
 - Te ora o te whānau (cross-sector approach),
 - Whole education system focus within Te Ora o te Whānau,
 - Te Pūkenga and wider tertiary sector, and
 - Iwi/Whānau capability.

7. The Ministry and MILG have worked in collaboration to prepare this briefing note.

Proactive Release

It is recommended that you:

8. **Agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree / Disagree



Māhina Melbourne
Group Manager
Te Pou Tuarongo

20/06/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

20/06/2023

Background

9. The MILG represent over 80 iwi who make up the National Iwi Chairs Forum. The MILG are comprised of:
 - Olivia Hall - the Chair,
 - Maxine Graham - Lead Technician,
 - [REDACTED] Technician,
 - [REDACTED] the Communications Technician,
 - [REDACTED] the Co-ordinator, and
 - Rangatahi Interns (university graduates).
10. The MILG Vision – Educational Landscape (Eduscape): Pae Maunga, is focused on ara mātauranga (The pathways of education), collective impact, mātauranga Māori, whānau capability and education governance. Their purpose is to develop, design and advocate for resource and research to support sustained iwi, hapū, whānau capability and akōnga Māori.
11. MILG and the Ministry have a joint work programme that is agreed quarterly. The key priorities for MILG this quarter are outlined below:
 - Mana Ōrite with all agencies across the education sector and are developing a Mana Ōrite agreement with the Ministry,
 - Attendance and engagement with a focus on presence, participation, and progress,
 - Ngā Ara Mātauranga (Alternative Education) for students at risk of disengaging or disengaged with education,
 - Digital Inclusion and Data Strategy Approach,
 - Building of whānau and iwi capability tools, and
 - Ongoing engagement with various Ministry groups on policy and work programmes aligned to the MILG priorities that impact on akōnga Māori.
12. At a strategic leadership level, the Secretary for Education (Iona Holsted) meets quarterly with the Lead Technician (Maxine Graham). The Secretary for Education and the Lead Technician meet with other Chief Executives and their Lead Advisors from government agencies as part of Pou Tangata quarterly forum.
13. The MILG team meet with the Ministry fortnightly to assess the relevance of opportunities for engagement, introduce groups from across the Ministry (and their work) and ascertain whether, and at what level, MILG will engage and have strategic discussions about agreed priorities and monitor progress across priorities. In May this year the Ministry and MILG had a wānanga for priority planning with a focus on outcomes of impact that provide value.
14. The Ministry has been able to increase the funding for MILG and they are happy with our effort to do that.^{9(2)(f)(iv)}
[REDACTED] The Ministry will continue to work with MILG over the next year on the joint priorities and identify options for additional sustainable funding if required.
15. The Ministry has a Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi honouring relationship with the MILG. The Ministry engages with MILG early and makes sure they are

involved in the decision-making processes. The Ministry works in partnership with MILG and maintains an open, trusting relationship.

16. The MILG have been engaged with several different parts of the education sector and work is well underway in these workstreams. The MILG are also regularly engaged in key pieces of the Ministry's work that impact upon ākonga Māori.

Topics for Discussion

17. The following topics of discussion include the Pou Tangata whānau centered approach and some priority areas that MILG are working on. For this meeting, MILG have a particular interest in leveraging relationships across Government and expanding relationships across the wider tertiary education sector that impact on ākonga Māori. MILG would like to hear your viewpoints as well as discuss any opportunities and issues that you would like to raise and seek MILG input on.

Te Ora o te Whānau cross Ministry approach

18. Te Ora o te Whānau (whānau centered approach to wellbeing) is the Pou Tangata priority that ILG's work contributes to. By leveraging relationships across ministries that impact upon te ora o te whānau (whānau wellbeing) we can have a greater impact on improving the lives of our iwi, hapū, whānau and ākonga Māori.
19. A Pou Tangata Co-Chairs meeting took place on May 29 with the Child Wellbeing Ministerial Group that you chair. Te Ora o te Whānau was the kaupapa. This is further enhancing MILG commitment to achieving Te Ora o te Whānau.

Whole education system focus within Te Ora o te Whānau

20. Te Ora o te Whānau can only be achieved by each group, department and Ministry working together cohesively, strategically and towards a shared vision. MILG lead the Education portfolio on behalf, and with the mandate, of the National Iwi Chairs Forum (representing over 80 iwi). It has since developed a map of the education landscape (Eduscape) to visualize where our ākonga are, who/what influences their experiences, and where iwi, hapū and whānau can position themselves strategically to impact on better decision making for ākonga Māori.

Te Pūkenga and wider tertiary sector

21. Many of our whānau and ākonga gravitate towards the tertiary sector as a pathway of providing for themselves and their whānau, and to achieve their aspirations. With the Review of Vocational Education reforms and formation of Te Pūkenga, MILG saw a strategic opportunity to influence the governance architecture and operating model, for the new entity to honour its legislative requirements of giving effect to Te Tiriti and operating with ākonga at the center.
22. In working with Te Pūkenga, MILG have become aware of the wider tertiary sector and other entities that hold influence, such as the Workforce Development Councils and Regional Skills Leadership Groups. In addition to the wānanga reforms currently in progress, MILG has expanded its focus from just working with Te Pūkenga to achieve shared relationship goals, to a more cohesive and strategic approach to the wider tertiary sector.

Iwi/Whānau capability

23. Building iwi and whānau capability is essential to achieve Te Ora o te Whānau, with whānau leading the decision making and feeling empowered and confident to

determine a pathway fit for themselves and their whānau. The MILG work programme is curated with building iwi and whānau capability as one of the key drivers.

Additional information to note

24. MILG have connection with iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori learners throughout the country representing over 80 iwi who make up the National Iwi Chairs Forum. MILG also have a breadth of knowledge and networks in the Māori education sector. This connection provides the Ministry with key insights, knowledge and influence into Māori communities and the education sector that MILG regularly engage with.
25. The Ministry has a positive relationship at both a strategic and operational level with MILG allowing for open and honest dialogue working in collaboration to improve outcomes for ākonga Māori and their whānau. MILG has a good reputation throughout the Ministry for engaging on matters of importance that impact ākonga Māori and their whānau and are often requested to engage across the Ministry.
26. The MILG have a collective impact working across education agencies and iwi leaders' groups to ensure a collective approach achieves impact for ākonga Māori. There are no risks identified regarding your engagement with MILG.

Proactive Release

27. It is recommended that this Briefing Note is proactively released, with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

The following are annexed to this paper:

Annex 1: Talking Points

Note: Talking Points withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i)