



## Briefing Note: Agenda Items for September 14 ECAC meeting

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Copy to:</b>	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	12 September 2022	<b>Priority:</b>	Low
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1295554
<b>Drafter:</b>	Catherine Wright	<b>DDI:</b>	04 463 0979
<b>Key Contact:</b>	Nancy Bell	<b>Mobile:</b>	9(2)(a)
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

This paper provides you with a briefing on the Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) members' meeting on Wednesday, 14 September 2022.

### 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 confirmed that you will be unable to attend the ECAC meeting on 14 September 2022; this paper gives you an overview of intended discussion for your reference.

### 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

## Background

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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.

### **The following agenda items will be discussed with ECAC members:**

- a. Pay Parity Funding Review
  - b. Curriculum update
  - c. Regulations review and network management
  - d. Potential establishment of a kaiako advisory forum
  - e. Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP) Update
  - f. A facilitated workshop on the early learning workforce, focusing on strengths, challenges and strategic direction.
3. Ministry officials will speak to these agenda items, providing an update or overview on specific streams of work. A brief overview of each item is provided for you below. The afternoon is a facilitated workshop, the topic of which was requested by ECAC members.
  4. A copy of the agenda for this meeting is attached as Annex One.

## Pay Parity Funding Review

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5. This item will update on progress with the Pay Parity Funding Review. In particular, it will cover work with the Expert Advisory Group since the last quarterly ECAC meeting, including option development and additional data collection efforts. The process from hereon in including consultation will also be canvassed. We expect to speak to ongoing interest in the new extended parity funding rates scheduled to start on 1 January 2023.

## Curriculum Update

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6. The National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP) Presentation will introduce the suite of resources designed to support the sector's engagement with the NELP and outline the approach taken in the development of these resources.
7. The Kōwhiri Whakapae presentation will provide an update on progress, discuss key findings from the evaluation of the trial and outline next steps. This will include further sector engagement.

## Regulations Review and Network Management

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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:
    - policy progress – legislative status, the Priorities and future steps.



- operational progress – high level description of the proposed application and assessment processes, the Statements and internal readiness.
9. It will also outline the very early work underway to progress other key actions from the ELAP that are part of Tranche 3 of the Review. This includes improving adult-to-child ratios (ELAP 1.1), developing advice on group size, centre design and environmental factors (ELAP 1.3) and identifying options to address supply of early learning services in under-served communities (ELAP 5.2) as an extension of the network management function.

### Kaiako Advisory Forum

10. This item will provide a high-level overview of the proposed kaiako advisory forum. The forum will give the Ministry the ability to engage more directly with our early learning/ kōhanga reo kaiako / kaimahi. This will include those at parent and whānau led services.
11. The forum's objectives are to gather kaiako / kaimahi perspectives on strategic and operational work that impacts the sector, building the Ministry's understanding of diverse kaiako / kaimahi experiences, needs and aspirations for the sector.
12. The forum will seek registrations from any kaiako / kaimahi who are interested in engaging in a range of ways with Te Tāhuhu such as surveys, workshops, and working groups. There will be no limit on membership numbers, and the link to register will remain open once available so joining can occur at any time.

### Early Learning Action Plan

13. The ELAP Dashboard is updated on a quarterly basis to track progress of the five objectives that form the ELAP. The key updates for the quarter June 2022 to September 2022 are:
- d) The initial scoping and planning work for Tranche 3 of the Early Learning Regulatory Review began in May 2022.
  - e) The project work for developing an IDI-based equity index for early learning has restarted.
  - f) Budget 2022 provided \$265.6 million over four years as the next step toward pay parity. The first opportunity to opt into the new extended parity funding rates is from 1 October 2022, for the November advance funding payment.
  - g) PLD supported trial of the draft framework of Kōwhiri Whakapae and the draft social and emotional learning tool was completed in June. The draft oral and literacy (OLLit) tool is underway, and a draft maths tool is due to begin in early 2023.
  - h) Public consultation on gazetting the full framework of Te Whāriki, including a te ao Māori interpretation of the framework, ended on 19 August 2022. It highlighted overall sector support.

### Workshop on Workforce and Teacher Supply

14. At the last quarterly ECAC meeting in June 2022, we held our first workshop session with members focusing on progress on the ELAP. The workshop at this meeting focuses on undertaking a deeper dive into early learning workforce, focusing on strengths, challenges and strategic direction. This has been arranged following

requests from ECAC members to discuss workforce challenges in more detail. The workshop will be facilitated by an independent facilitator who will lead the workshop with support from Ministry officials from Te Puna Ohumahi Matauranga (Education Workforce).

15. We will evaluate the workshop and factor this into planning for future quarterly meetings.

## Annexes

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Annex 1: ECAC 14 September Agenda

## Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC)

### 14 September 2022

### 9:00am to 4:00pm

<b>Location</b>	Catherine Room Mercy Conference Centre 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon
<b>Chair</b>	Nancy Bell
<b>Secretariat</b>	Catherine Wright
<b>Apologies</b>	Hon. Chris Hipkins, Iona Holsted, Jayne Franklin
<b>Circulated before meeting</b>	Apologies, minutes, actions
<b>Guests</b>	Anne Pattillo, Laura Holton & Emma MacDonald

#	Topic	Sponsor	Paper/ Oral	Start time
1	Welcome, karakia and introductions			9:00
	(a) General welcome to all	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(b) Karakia	Jill Bond	Oral	
	(c) Member movements	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(d) Apologies	Nancy Bell	Oral	
	(e) Confirming June minutes and actions	Nancy Bell	Paper	
2	Pay Parity Funding Review	John Brooker	Oral	9:15
3	Curriculum update - Kōwhiri Whakapae - Implementation of the NELP	Jane Ewens, Ann Pairman & Michelle Unuia	Paper	9:45
	Morning tea			10:30
4	Regulations review and network management	Paul Scholey & Felix Mussell	Paper	10:45

## Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) 14 September 2022 9:00am to 4:00pm

5	Kaiako advisory forum	Karen Walfisch	Oral	11:15
6	ELAP update	Nancy Bell	Paper	11:30
	<b>Lunch break</b>			12:00
7	Workshop session Early Learning Workforce: strengths, challenges, and strategic direction.	Anne Pattillo (Facilitator)		
	(a) Current state overview	MOE team	Paper	12:45
	(b) Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teachers and kaiako</li> <li>- Leadership</li> <li>- Other roles</li> </ul>	All	Oral	1:15
	(c) Reflections and wrap up	Nancy Bell	Oral	3:30
	Meeting closure	Jill Bond		4:00