



## Briefing Note: 2021 Budget Package: Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education (Technical Initiatives) – Cabinet Paper

<b>To:</b>	Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	29 March 2021	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	Budget Sensitive	<b>METIS No:</b>	1253398
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<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

- Note** that the technical Budget Package is being considered at Cabinet on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- Note** the technical package includes the following initiatives:
  - EDUCATION
    - Expense Transfer Related to Social and Emotional Regulation (initiative 13380).
    - Addressing Learners' Needs by Improving Data Quality, Availability, Timeliness and Capability (Initiative 13396)
    - Raising the Profile and Strengthening the Pipeline into Vocational Education (Initiative 13419)
    - Implementation of Te Hurihanganui - Supporting Equitable Outcomes for Māori Learners (Initiative 13416)
  - TERTIARY EDUCATION
    - Co-ordination of Emergency Management and Search and Rescue Training (Initiative 13389)
    - Fiscally Neutral Adjustment to Support the Establishment of Workforce Development Councils (Initiative 13427)
    - Timing of Grant Expenditure Recognition for Te Wānanga o Raukawa (Initiative 13445)
- Agree** that this Briefing will not be proactively released at this time because it is Budget related and details will be released by the Minister of Finance on Budget day (Thursday 20 May)

**Agree / Disagree**

## Summary

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The proposed Budget 2021 technical initiatives for Vote Education and Vote Tertiary Education comprise:

- Expense Transfer Related to Social and Emotional Regulation that transfers funds to 2021/22 because of delays in trialling tools for understanding children's progress in social and emotional learning and development.
- Addressing Learners' Needs by Improving Data Quality, Availability, Timeliness and Capability that transfers funds to 2021/22 due to anticipated delays in the programme to allow time for the tools in the kete to be considered as part of a broader approach to learners' transition from early childhood education to schooling.
- Raising the Profile and Strengthening the Pipeline into Vocational Education that transfers funds to 2021/22 due to postponements driven by COVID lockdowns.
- Implementation of Te Hurihanganui - Supporting Equitable Outcomes for Māori Learners that extends programme funding to 2023/24 and revises funding allocations between departmental and non-departmental due to the impact of COVID.
- Co-ordination of Emergency Management and Search and Rescue Training that provides coordinators with administrative funding after an extension to the programme.
- Fiscally Neutral Adjustment to Support the Establishment of Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) to ensure the WDC Establishment Unit can continue funding some establishment and initial operating expenses of WDCs.
- Timing of Grant Expenditure Recognition for Te Wānanga o Raukawa corrects an error in the March Baseline Update between Tertiary Education Research and Research-Based Teaching and Support for Te Wānanga o Raukawa appropriations.



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29/03/2021



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29/03/2021

Hon Chris Hipkins  
**Minister of Education**

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## Background

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1. The technical Budget Package contains initiatives that are technical in nature and don't require policy decisions.
2. These initiatives were not developed in time to be incorporated in the March Baseline Update (MBU), were beyond the delegation of Joint Ministers for inclusion in MBU or correct issues from MBU.
3. In 2021 there are four technical initiatives related to Vote Education and three technical initiatives related to Vote Tertiary Education.

### VOTE EDUCATION

#### **Expense Transfer Related to Social and Emotional Regulation (initiative 13380).**

4. This initiative reflects an anticipated delay in preparing tools to support early learning kaiako understanding of children's progress in social and emotional learning and development. The trialling of those tools will therefore mainly occur in 2021/22 instead of 2020/21. This delay requires a consequential transfer of \$1.150 million to 2021/22.

#### **Addressing Learners' Needs by Improving Data Quality, Availability, Timeliness and Capability (initiative 13396)**

5. This initiative reflects an anticipated delay in implementing the School Entry Kete to increase the education system's knowledge of individual learners and how best to position services to address the needs of each learner and their community and whānau. The initiative as originally funded in Budget 2019 [CAB-19-MIN-0174.13 Initiative 10886 refers].
6. The delay was requested by Minister Tinetti to consider the tools in the kete as part of a broader approach to learners' transition from early childhood education to schooling. This will delay implementation of those tools and require a consequential transfer of \$1.800 million to 2021/22.

#### **Raising the Profile and Strengthening the Pipeline into Vocational Education (initiative 13419)**

7. In October 2019 Cabinet agreed to a suite of initiatives to raise the profile and strengthen the pipeline into vocational education [CAB-19-MIN-0515 refers]. COVID lockdowns forced postponed some initiatives such as supporting additional careers events and creating a contestable fund for schools to run their own trades events. Consequently, an expense transfer to 2021/22 of \$1.229 million is sought so those activities can occur in 2021/22.

#### **Implementation of Te Hurihanganui - Supporting Equitable Outcomes for Māori Learners (initiative 13416)**

8. Te Hurihanganui was approved in Budget 2019 to support whanau and communities to engage in the education of Māori learners [CAB-19-MIN-0174.13 initiative 11594 refers]. The initial programme involved a large amount of consultation to shape the response to assist in improving Maori educational outcomes. But COVID has delayed implementation and it is now proposed to extend the programme to 2023/24 and revise funding allocations between departmental and non-departmental. Combining fiscally neutral adjustments and expense transfers is outside joint Ministers delegation.
9. This initiative also addresses an error in the 2021 March Baseline Update and will allow the Ministry to sign contracts with certainty that funding is in the right year and appropriation.

## VOTE TERTIARY EDUCATION

### **Co-ordination of Emergency Management and Search and Rescue Training (initiative 13389)**

10. Due to the extension of existing funding arrangements for Emergency Management and Search and Rescue training, continued administrative funding is required for the agencies co-ordinating this training (from within funding previously agreed for co-ordination and training delivery).

### **Fiscally Neutral Adjustment to Support the Establishment of Workforce Development Councils (initiative 13427)**

11. This initiative supports the transition from interim Workforce Development Council (WDC) Establishment Boards to the formal establishment and operations of WDCs by ensuring the WDC Establishment Unit can continue funding some establishment and initial operating expenses of WDCs in 2021/22. Cabinet agreed to establish and fund WDCs as part of the Reform of Vocational Education [CAB-20-MIN-0219.27 Initiative No: 12661 refers], though the Establishment Unit and interim boards cannot currently administer funding beyond 30 June 2021.

### **Timing of Grant Expenditure Recognition for Te Wānanga o Raukawa (initiative 13445)**

12. This initiative corrects an error in the March Baseline Update that allocated an adjustment to recognise grant expenditure for Te Wānanga o Raukawa in 2020/21 rather than in 2021/22 and 2022/23 to the wrong appropriation - non-departmental output expense Tertiary Education Research and Research-Based Teaching instead of other expense Support for Te Wānanga o Raukawa. Under accounting standard PBE IPSAS 23 expenditure should be recognised when the obligation arises rather than when payments are made.

## Proactive Release

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13. We recommend that this Briefing is not released at this time because it is Budget related and details will be released by the Minister of Finance on Budget day.