



Briefing Note: Improving Pay in Kōhanga Reo – communications and engagement approach

To:	Hon Kelvin Davis		
Date:	14 May 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	Budget Sensitive	METIS No:	1259931
Drafter:	John Brooker	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	John Brooker	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes / No	Round Robin:	Yes / No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

- **Note** the approach we are proposing to undertake to communicate and work with the Kōhanga Reo Trust following the announcement of Government's early learning pay parity initiative this week
- **Agree** that this Briefing will not be proactively released at this time because it contains Budget sensitive information

☒ **Agree** / ☐ **Disagree**



Dr Andrea Schöllmann
Deputy Secretary
Education System Policy

14/05/2021



Hon Kelvin Davis
Associate Minister of
Education

19/5/2021

Background

1. As you are aware, the Government considered it important that there was additional funding for kōhanga reo to sit alongside the pay parity funding recently announced for education and care services to pay their certificated teachers' closer to the rates paid to kindergarten teachers.
2. Government has therefore set aside about \$12 million for kōhanga reo. It is a pro-rated amount based on the number of child hours the government funds education and care services compared to kōhanga reo.
3. The overall announcement on early learning pay parity was made by the Minister of Education on Wednesday 12 May. As part of this announcement, it was made clear that funding had been also been set aside to improve pay in kōhanga reo. The amount of funding set aside for kōhanga was not disclosed (for the reasons discussed with you last week) but instead it was made clear that the Crown (through the Ministry) would work with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust to agree how best to make this funding work to improve pay in kōhanga reo.

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Discussions with kōhanga reo

6. Officials from the Ministry of Education have been in touch with Angus Hartley (Tumu Whakarae of the Trust) about this funding to ensure the Trust understood provision had been made for kōhanga and that there will need to be discussion and agreement between the Crown and the Trust about how the funding is applied before it is released. We are scheduled to meet face to face with Angus and his staff on Tuesday 18 May.

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Next steps

9. As noted above we are scheduled to meet with the Trust next week to begin the engagement process on this. We will keep you up to date with how that develops.
10. For any post-Budget communications on this issue please refer to this briefing note and the additional communications material provided to your office as part of the Budget.

Proactively Released