



## Briefing Note: New Zealand Council for Educational Research Annual Report 2019/2020

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	1 February 2021	Priority:	Low
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1249517
Drafter:	David Turner		9(2)(a)
Key contact:	Philip Stevens	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team	N/A	Round Robin	No

### Purpose

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

**Note** that the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER) Annual Report 2019/20 meets statutory requirements and can be presented to Parliament.

**Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree

### Summary

- You have just received the Annual Report for 2019/20 from NZCER.
- The document meets the statutory requirements and can be tabled. As the responsible Minister for NZCER, you would present it to Parliament 'as soon as practicable' after receiving it.
- NZCER will liaise with your office on the process and timing for tabling its Annual Report.

  
Alexander Brunt

Deputy Secretary

Evidence, Data and Knowledge

1 / 2 / 2021

  
Hon Jan Tinetti

Associate Minister of Education

3 / 02 / 2021

## **Background**

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1. On 30 November 2020, the Minister of Education delegated to you the responsibility for the NZCER.
2. NZCER carries out or funds research, publishes reports, and disseminates information on educational topics. It aims to provide information and advice to teachers' and other people concerned with education.
3. The Ministry provides advice to support your role with regards to the NZCER Act 1972 (the Act). This includes advice about making one Ministerial appointment to the NZCER Board every four years, setting the remuneration of Board members, administering the Government grant, and ensuring NZCER's Annual Report meets statutory requirements.

## **Statutory Requirements**

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4. The Act requires NZCER to provide the responsible Minister with an Annual Report on its proceedings and operations (s32). This must include financial statements and the audit report on those statements for the financial year just ended.
5. We note that NZCER's Annual Report for 2019/20 meets statutory requirements and can be tabled.
6. You are responsible for presenting the Annual Report 'as soon as practicable' after receiving it (s32).

## **Key points from the 2019/20 Annual Report**

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7. The Annual Report describes their activities in six areas.
  - a. Te Pae Tawhiti government grant and the publications funded through the grant;
  - b. Evaluations of pilot projects or initiatives;
  - c. Activities by Te Wāhanga, NZCER's Māori research unit;
  - d. Support for schools, tertiary education institutions, and the Ministry of Education;
  - e. NZCER Press outputs;
  - f. Psychometric testing by NZCER's Psychological Test Services.
8. The annual report emphasises NZCER's work related to:
  - a. Equity;
  - b. Better educational outcomes for Māori learners;
  - c. Contributing to the future development of New Zealand's education system.
9. The annual report shows that most New Zealand schools and kura have purchased NZCER reports and other products. It provides figures on the number of reports they have published, how many page views there have been on the NZCER website, and other measures of audience reach.

10. The annual report details NZCER's current financial condition. It shows that NZCER's revenue and net surplus were somewhat reduced from the previous financial year, but their total equity increased by 17 percent.
11. The Ministry of Education will continue to work with NZCER staff on the scope and contributions of their research under Te Pae Tawhiti (the government grant).

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**Next steps**

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12. NZCER will liaise with your office on the process for presenting its Annual Report to Parliament.

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**Proactive release**

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13. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.