



## Education Report: Reappointment of the Professional Advisory Group

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	29 July 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1234800
<b>Drafter:</b>	Elana McNeill	<b>DDI:</b>	s 9(2)(a)
<b>Key Contact:</b>	Jackie Talbot	<b>DDI:</b>	
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	N/A	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to confirm:

- a. reappointment of nine original members of the NCEA Review Professional Advisory Group (PAG) and the appointment of one new member to support the implementation of the changes to NCEA;
- b. the steps required to obtain Cabinet approval to form the PAG.

A draft Cabinet paper and Terms of Reference for the PAG are attached.

### Summary

1. In September 2018, you established a 10 member Professional Advisory Group (PAG) to work alongside the now-disestablished Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) and to provide advice on the NCEA Review. The Professional Advisory Group was composed of current and former principals and teachers with extensive experience working with NCEA in a range of schools and kura.
2. The Ministerial Advisory Group term ended on 31 August 2019 and you agreed to reappoint the Professional Advisory Group to support implementation of the NCEA Change Package. Their term now expires on 31 September 2020.
3. In June, you agreed that the Ministry provide you with a paper to present to Cabinet's Appointments and Honours Committee to extend the term of the PAG for a further year. [METIS 1232319 refers].
4. To reappoint the PAG, we recommend you bring a paper to the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee on 5 August.

5. We have tested availability with the current PAG members. All but one – Rangimarie Mahuta – will continue on the Group. Rangimarie Mahuta will be stepping back from this work, having left her kura, Te Wharekura O Rakaumanga School. After consulting with Ngā kura ā iwi o Aotearoa, we recommend appointing Sophie Tukukino, pending probity checks that we are currently carrying out.
6. We also recommend that you reappoint the nine other original members of the PAG, and continue Roger Moses as chair.
7. We have provided a refined Terms of Reference to reflect the implementation focus of the advice we are seeking and a general preference for virtual meetings. The details of the PAG's role are set out in the draft Terms of Reference attached as Annex 2.

## Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **Agree** to bring the Cabinet Paper *Reappointment of the NCEA Review Professional Advisory Group* to the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee on 5 August;  
☒ Agree ☐ Disagree
- b. **Agree** to the terms of reference of the PAG as described in Annex 2;  
☒ Agree ☐ Disagree
- c. **Agree** to reappoint Roger Moses as chair of the PAG;  
☒ Agree ☐ Disagree
- d. **Agree** to reappoint all of the following to the Professional Advisory Group (summaries at Annex 1);

James Morris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Deidre Shea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Campbell Dewes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Louise Anaru	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Natalie Faitala	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Helen Mora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
Melanie Webber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No
David Ferguson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No

- e. **Agree** to appoint the following to the Professional Advisory Group pending standard probity checks (summary at **Annex 1**);

Sophie Tukukino	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> / No
-----------------	---

- f. **Agree** that the Ministry work with your office to draft:

- i. reappointment letters for the nine members continuing on the PAG
- ii. a thank you letter for Rangimarie Mahuta on the completion of her term
- iii. an appointment letter to Sophie Tukukino

☒ **Agree** / Disagree

- g. **Agree** that this Education Report is proactively released as part of the next publication.

☒ **Agree** / Disagree

Jackie Talbot  
**Group Manager**  
**Early Learning and Student Achievement**



20/07/2020



Hon Chris Hipkins  
**Minister of Education**

9/8/2020

\_\_/\_\_/\_\_

## Background

---

8. On 5 July 2018, you met with a group of principals including representatives of the Secondary Principals' Association of New Zealand (SPANZ), the Secondary Principals' Council (SPC) and the Auckland Secondary Schools Principals' Association (ASSPA), to discuss the roles of principals and teachers in the NCEA review.
9. Following this meeting, you agreed to establish the Professional Advisory Group to provide advice on the NCEA Review.
10. On 22 February 2019, both the PAG and MAG provided you with formal advice on changes to NCEA alongside the advice from the Ministry of Education. This followed extensive consultation throughout 2018 where 16,000 pieces of feedback were received which informed the changes.
11. On 15 May 2019, you announced the changes to NCEA based on this advice, and directed the Ministry to work with key stakeholders on the design and implementation of these.
12. The Ministerial Advisory Group term ended on 31 August 2019 and you agreed to reappoint the Professional Advisory Group to support implementation of the NCEA Change Package.
13. After working with key stakeholders and the PAG, the Ministry provided you with an implementation plan for the NCEA Change Package. You presented this to Cabinet on 17 February 2020 and Cabinet confirmed this plan. Since then, we have regularly met with the plan on the detailed implementation of the Change Package who have provided us ongoing advice.
14. The appointments and Terms of Reference of the PAG expire on 31 September this year. The PAG is appointed by you following consideration by Cabinet's Appointments and Honours Committee.

## Professional Advisory Group (PAG) Role

---

15. The role of the PAG is to enable secondary principals and teachers to bring their technical expertise and deep knowledge of the sector to implementation of the NCEA Change Package.
16. The PAG has provided important expertise and advice relating to the NCEA change programme and are now working with us to support change and implementation. The PAG have also provided support and feedback as we have worked through changes to NCEA this year in light of COVID-19 disruption.
17. We anticipate the primary functions of the PAG for the next phase of implementing the NCEA Change Package will be to:
  - a. test the Ministry's thinking around design and implementation; and
  - b. act as a critical friend to the Ministry.
18. There will be no expectation that the PAG would provide a formal report to you, however they would retain the ability to provide you with independent advice if necessary.

19. The role of the PAG is set out in detail in the Terms of Reference at Annex 2. We suggest you reappoint nine original members and one new member to the PAG for one year from 01 October 2020 to 01 October 2021.

## PAG Membership

---

20. We have spoken with all members to the PAG to understand their commitment going forward. Nine of the ten members told us that they are keen to continue on the PAG and support the implementation of the NCEA Change Package.
21. Current member Rangimarie Mahuta has recently resigned from her leadership role at Te Wharekura O Rakaumanga kura. Rangimarie has been a valued member of the PAG, but as she has left her role, Ngā Kura a Iwi o Aotearoa have nominated a new representative, Sophie Tukukino as a strong candidate to represent kura kaupapa on the group, and in particular, Ngā kura a iwi o Aotearoa. We recommend Sophie Tukukino – Tumuaki of Te Kura Māori o Porirua – for appointment to the PAG, pending formal probity checks that we are currently undertaking.
22. The new appointment alongside the remaining nine members reflects a wide cross section of New Zealand schools. We therefore also recommend reappointing the remaining nine members of the PAG, with Roger Moses as chair. Summaries of the proposed membership are attached as Annex 1.
23. We have updated any perceived or real conflicts of interest of the nine reappointments and are in a position to manage these accordingly.
24. We acknowledge that the PAG cannot represent all voices and views of NCEA users, so we have safeguards across our implementation plan to mitigate against this. For example, we have a number of Panels to provide advice on specific user groups of NCEA:
- a. Pathways Advisory Panel: provides representation of the foundation tertiary sector.
  - b. Accessibility Advisory Panel: provides advice on learners with disabilities and learning support needs.
  - c. Pacific Panel: provides advice on the experience of Pacific learners in NCEA.
  - d. Māori Panel: provides advice on supporting ākonga Māori and realising mātauranga Māori across NCEA.

## Next Steps

---

25. We will update the Cabinet Paper to reflect your decisions and provide the other required content in time for lodging on 29 July. We will also provide an Aide Memoire with talking points to support you to take it to APH and Cabinet, if required.
26. We will work with your office to draft reappointment letters for the continuing nine members, an appointment letter for Sophie Tukukino, and a thank you letter for Rangimarie Mahuta.

## Proactive Release

---

27. It is intended 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.

## Annexes

---

Annex 1: Proposed PAG members and summaries

Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the Professional Advisory Group