



Briefing Note: Education and Training Bill: Social Wellbeing Cabinet Committee consideration of Tranche 3 Cabinet paper

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	20 September 2019	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1200361
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of paper

This paper provides talking points for your discussion of the paper *Education and Training Bill – third tranche of Cabinet policy approvals* at the Social Wellbeing Cabinet Committee on 25 September 2019.

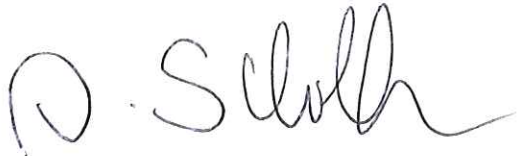
Summary

- You are seeking Cabinet's approval for the third tranche of policy proposals for the Education and Training Bill (the Bill) and for the issuing of related drafting instructions.
- These proposals:
 - Enable more efficient and effective use of student loans and allowances client information;
 - Change the limitation period for prosecuting certain student loans and allowances offences;
 - Make changes to provisions regarding teachers' practising certificates;
 - Remove the ability for State school principals to preclude students from attending school because they are unclean;
 - Make minor, technical updates to online learning provisions;
 - Make minor, technical improvements to the school board electoral process;
 - Shift some provisions regarding the operation of school boards to regulation in order to simplify and streamline the primary legislation.

Proactive release

Agree that this Briefing will **not** be proactively released at this time because final decisions are still to be made on what should be included in the Education and Training Bill.

Agree / Disagree



Dr Andrea Schöllmann
Deputy Secretary
Education System Policy

20/09/2019

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

___/___/___

Talking Points - Education and Training Bill third tranche of Cabinet policy approvals

- I am seeking approval for the third tranche of policy proposals for the Education and Training Bill and for the issuing of related drafting instructions.
- The Bill will result in a new Education and Training Act that will replace the 1989 and 1964 Education Acts and the Industry Training and Apprenticeships Act 1992.
- I am proposing several changes to the student loans and allowances provisions. This part of the 1989 Act is administered by MSD. These changes will enable more efficient and effective use of client information. They will also align the limitation period for prosecuting information-related offences with the limitation period that applies to other student loans and allowances offences.
- I am also proposing changes in relation to teachers' practising certificates. As a result of the Accord reached with teacher unions through the collective bargaining process this year, teacher appraisals are no longer required for the issuing and renewal of practising certificates. I therefore propose to remove the legislative requirement for the Teaching Council to audit teacher appraisals.
- I want to be clear, however, that teachers will still be required to meet the Standards for the Teaching Profession. The Teaching Council is working with the profession and peak bodies on a process for ensuring this happens.
- Practising certificate renewal requirements will be made more flexible for teachers unable to meet current requirements for satisfactory recent teaching experience. This will make it easier for teachers who have been travelling overseas or raising a family to re-enter the workforce.
- I am proposing to remove the legislative provision allowing State school principals to preclude students from attending school because they are unclean. Such a provision is not appropriate in the 21st Century.
- Minor technical changes will update the legislation in relation to online learning. The term correspondence school will be replaced by the term distance school and the dual tuition provisions will be amended to clarify that dual tuition can be delivered in-person or online.
- I am also proposing several changes to improve the process for electing school boards of trustees. Where an election has been invalidated, boards will have a new option to appoint a statutory commissioner until the new board takes office. Currently, the Minister is required to reinstate the previous board, which is not always feasible or appropriate. Under my proposal, the Minister can either reinstate the previous board or appoint a statutory commissioner.
- In addition to this, the public notice requirements regarding casual board vacancies will be updated and a redundant regulation - making power will be removed.
- Finally, in an effort to simplify and streamline the primary legislation, detailed provisions regarding the operation of school boards will be moved to regulations.
- I expect to seek further policy approvals next month and to introduce the Bill later this year.