



07 MAY 2024

Dr Wayne Ngata
Acting Chair
Tertiary Education Commission
PO Box 27-048
Wellington 6141

Tēna koe Wayne,

Delegation to fund Workforce Development Councils

I am writing to advise you of my decision to extend the current delegation under which the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) funds Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) through to 30 June 2025.

As Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills, I delegate authority to the TEC to fund WDCs to perform their statutory functions and fulfil their duties as defined in the Education and Training Act 2020 and in their respective Orders in Council.

From 30 June 2024, I extend the delegation to the TEC to administer and pay funding for WDCs for up to a further 12 months until 30 June 2025. The TEC can utilise funding of up to \$65m from the Workforce Development Councils appropriation within Vote Tertiary Education to fund WDCs.

This extension of the delegation will allow WDCs to continue to deliver on their core functions. By early 2025, I expect decisions to have been made about future funding arrangements for WDCs.

Until 30 June 2025, WDCs will therefore continue to be funded by the TEC on an annual basis, with the funding agreements requiring performance measures and specified deliverables, i.e., six-monthly progress reports, an annual operational plan, and advice to the TEC.

The TEC must also take into account, when negotiating WDCs' operational plans, the scale of the industries covered by each WDC and other factors that the TEC considers relevant to their funding decision.

I hereby delegate to the TEC under section 409(1)(j) of the Education and Training Act 2020 authority to pay funding:

- to WDCs established under section 363 of the Education and Training Act 2020;
- for the activities agreed to by the TEC in WDCs' operational plans; and
- using funding up to the amount appropriated to Non-Departmental Output Expenses: Workforce Development Councils within Vote Tertiary Education.

I expect the TEC to:

- give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles as required by sections 4(d) and 9 of the Education and Training Act 2020 in the exercise of this delegation;

- formally report to me on the performance of WDCs six-monthly and on a no-surprises basis for any issues that may arise;
- publish information on the work of WDCs regularly, including a public list that itemises each WDC that is funded and the amount of funding they have received. I expect WDCs' plans to be published by WDCs; and
- work to ensure that WDCs are collaborating with each other and demonstrating how they are maximising efficiency and effectiveness for the use of Government funding.

This delegation applies from 30 June 2024 until 30 June 2025, unless revoked or replaced.

The TEC may exercise any of its administrative functions as required to give effect to this delegation.

Yours sincerely



Hon Penny Simmonds
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills