

Event backgrounder: Visit to Eastern Institute of Technology – Taradale Campus on 7 June 2018

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
From:	Section 9(2)(a) Acting Manager, ITP and PTE Investment
Date:	30 May 2018
Reference:	E/18/00365

Purpose

1. On 7 June 2018 you are visiting Eastern Institute of Technology's Taradale Campus in Napier. You are meeting with the Chief Executive Chris Collins and the Deputy Chief Executive Mark Oldershaw. Biographies are provided in Appendix 1.
2. You will be given a tour of the campus during which you will meet with staff and students.
3. We recommend that you release this event briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

About Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT)

4. EIT is one of the largest regional institutes of technology and polytechnics (ITPs) in New Zealand, and the main provider of tertiary education in the Hawke's Bay and Gisborne regions. EIT delivers through two main campuses, Taradale in Napier and Tairāwhiti in Gisborne.
5. EIT also delivers through smaller sites including learning centres in Hastings, Wairoa and Ruatoria and pop up centres across its regions. EIT operates a small campus in Auckland, primarily for international students, and delivers distance education through Tertiary Accord of New Zealand (TANZ) e-campus, an online learning platform developed in partnership with five other ITPs.
6. EIT merged with Tairāwhiti Community Polytechnic in 2011, which extended the range of options available to learners in EIT's regions. It enrolls around 9,000 learners annually with a particular focus on health, commerce and agriculture and te reo māori.
7. The Taradale campus you are visiting in Napier is EIT's largest campus. EIT delivers around 75% of all its equivalent full-time student (EFTS) in the Hawke's Bay region. The main subject areas delivered in Napier in 2017 were Health (19%), Society and Culture (17%), and Management and Commerce (15%), with delivery predominately at level 7 (33%) and level 3 (20%).
8. EIT has increased its international student intake slowly but steadily. Student numbers have increased from 200 in 2013 to approximately 1,000 in 2017. This growth has benefited the Hawkes Bay campus significantly with over 65% of international students studying here.

9. EIT has been allocated close to \$40.7m of grants funding for 2018. This is mostly Student Achievement Component (SAC) Funding. Appendix 2 shows actual funding for 2017 and allocated funding for 2018. EIT has also received close to \$3.68m of fees-free payments for 2018.
10. EIT is currently on a three year Investment Plan. Unlike many ITPs, EIT consistently delivers between 99% and 105% of its SAC allocation. Its educational Performance Indicators (EPIs) for the past five years have been around the subsector median.

Key initiatives and areas of interest

Māori and Pasifika Trades Training

11. EIT has been the lead tertiary education organisation for two Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT) consortia since the initiative was rolled out in 2014. Te Toka covers the Gisborne Region, while Te Ara Tākitimu focuses on the Hawkes Bay. Both consortia contribute to the goals of the respective Regional Economic Development Strategy by improving pathways to and through employment.

Secondary Tertiary Interface

12. EIT is the lead provider of the Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti Schools Trade Academy and has received just over \$1.9m in funding for 2018. Trades academies are for students who are already enrolled in secondary schools and combine both secondary and tertiary education and relevant work experience. Students aim to achieve National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) at level 2 or 3 while working towards a trades-related tertiary qualification. EIT offers a variety of programmes ranging from animal care through to robotics.
13. EIT has also received \$3.6m of Youth Guarantee funding (YG). YG provides fees-free places for students aged 16-19 years, who are studying towards NCEA levels 1 or 2 or another qualification at levels 1, 2 or 3 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework.

EIT is collaborating with communities....

14. EIT is a key partner in two regional economic development strategies: Te Huarahi Hei Whai Oranga, the Tairāwhiti Economic Action Plan; and Mātāriki, the Hawkes Bay Regional Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan. Both initiatives are collaborations between iwi and hapu, the business sector, central government agencies and local authorities.
15. These Action Plans have a strong focus on improving pathways to employment and delivering provision to learners in geographically dispersed locations with a high proportion of Māori. Project 1,000, for example, aims to link local people to 1,000 new jobs as part of Matariki's Action Plan. EIT contributes to Project 1,000 by providing and developing vocational pathways, for example through MPTT.

....and other sectors to provide pathways

16. In 2017 EIT signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Waikato University, creating more opportunities for the two tertiary education providers to work together. Both Waikato and Massey University now have a base on EIT's main campus in Taradale.

17. During 2017 EIT partnered with Primary ITO, Toi Ohomai and industry, to develop and deliver the level 5 Diploma in Horticulture (Post Harvest). This industry partnership model allows EIT to explore new methods of programme delivery which meet industry needs and extend industry based learning opportunities. Students are trained by industry experts and receive additional support in their workplace through the ITO.

ITP Roadmap 2020 Project

TEC is working closely with EIT on ITP Roadmap 2020...

18. In April you announced the Government's programme of work to reform the polytechnic sector, the ITP Roadmap 2020, led by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and a review of vocational training, led by the Ministry of Education (MoE).
19. The ITP Roadmap 2020 project is on track with three comprehensive workstreams currently underway: detailed problem investigation, opportunities analysis, and system options analysis.
20. When we met with the ITP Chief Executives on Thursday 17 May, EIT's Chief Executive Chris Collins was particularly interested in ensuring that TEC's analysis of the ITPs' New Zealand Benchmarking Tool (NZBT) data will be robust, credible and come to conclusions in consultation with the ITPs. We have since asked the ITPs to nominate some 'boffins' to work with our TEC and PwC experts on this data analysis. Chris Collins is also part of the Chief Executives' sub group. We will use sessions with this group over the next two months to test each stage of our work.
21. We are also well underway planning our regional engagements, which will include Gisborne in early July. We will meet with EIT's management, staff and students as part of this engagement. We also plan to hold a meeting off-campus with stakeholders such as the local council, iwi and industry.
22. While we will undertake these engagements across the country, we note that your visit to EIT is an opportunity to talk to students about this work. The TEU recommended in its letter of 24 April 2018 that you speak directly with students about the project. You may wish to ask the students you meet about the things they value in their learning experience at EIT, and what could be improved.

...and MoE recently visited EIT for input into the VET Review

23. MoE met with EIT senior management, staff and students on 8 May 2018 to discuss the VET review. Some key points that arose were:
 - EIT is industry focused, and where an ITO does not have a presence in its region, EIT works to ensure that employers' needs can still be met through their provision. EIT work closely with some ITOs such as Skills Org and MITO and the Primary ITO.
 - EIT is very interested in microcredentials and funding being allocated in the system to support them.
 - EIT is part of the TANZ e-campus network which shares programme design and materials. They would like to see a funding system that is more encouraging of joint delivery arrangements.

24. The Ministry of Education will report to you at the end of June on the findings of the VET review to date. This report will also propose broad directions for the review to take having completed the information gathering phase. We expect to involve the sector again in developing any options for change.

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Acting Manager, ITP and PTE Investment Team

Tertiary Education Commission

30 May 2018


Hon Chris Hipkins

Minister of Education

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Appendix: Biographies

EIT Chief Executive

<p>Chris Collins</p> <p><i>Chief Executive</i></p>	<p>Chris Collins was appointed Chief Executive of EIT in September 2004. Prior to this he was Dean and General Manager of the Health Sciences and Technology Division at UCOL. Previous positions held were Regional Registrar, Director of Sports, Leisure and Cultural Services, Director Student Services and Senior Fellow in the Management Department at Massey University.</p> <p>Chris has an MA from Victoria University, a Diploma in PE from Otago University and a Diploma in Teaching from Auckland College of Education.</p>	
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EIT Deputy Chief Executive

<p>Mark Oldershaw</p> <p><i>Deputy Chief Executive</i></p>	<p>Mark Oldershaw was appointed Deputy Chief Executive of EIT in December 2014. Prior to this role, he was the Chief Executive of the Industry Training Federation for 3 years. Originally a chartered accountant, he has held a number of general manager and chief executive roles in industry, political and arts organisations, including the World of Wearable Art.</p>	
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Appendix 2: EIT Funding 2017-2018

Fund name	2017	2018
ACE in TEIs	\$473,386	\$500,913
Dual Pathways	\$284,875	\$295,857
Equity Loading	\$265,144	\$277,293
ESOL - Refugee English Fund	\$30,950	\$30,950
Industry Training Fund	\$15,648	
MPTT - Brokerage	\$244,725	\$265,975
MPTT (SAC Trade Top-up)	\$1,100,290	\$1,275,748
MPTT Tools Subsidy	\$38,000	\$6,000
Performance Based Research Fund	\$600,960	\$590,526
SAC - Lvl 3+	\$22,876,467	\$23,105,232
SAC - Lvl 1 & 2 Competitive	\$3,504,172	\$3,504,172
SAC - Lvl 1 & 2 Non-Competitive	\$659,394	\$659,394
SAC - Lvl 3 & 4 Competitive	\$4,042,150	\$4,042,150
Secondary Tertiary Interface	\$1,991,100	\$1,931,300
TEGOF - MPTT Co	\$493,399	\$545,500
Youth Guarantee	\$3,644,312	\$3,637,031
Total	\$40,264,971	\$40,668,041