



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Jackson	Portfolio	Employment
Title of Cabinet paper	Establishing Regional Skills Leadership Groups	Date to be published	At your discretion (but no later than 4 September 2019)

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
22/07/2019	Establishing Regional Skills Leadership Groups	Office of Minister of Employment
24/07/2019	SWC-19-MIN-0087	Cabinet Office
04/07/2019	Joint Briefing – Establishing Regional Leadership Groups	MBIE, MoE
13/03/2019	Memo to Labour Market Ministerial Group on labour market planning	MBIE

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the following reasons:

- Privacy of natural persons
- Confidential advice to Government



Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Establishing Regional Skills Leadership Groups

Portfolios Education / Social Development / Immigration / Seniors / Employment

On 24 July 2019, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

Background

- 1 **noted** that there are a number of participants within the labour market system making autonomous decisions based on different data and analysis, leading to suboptimal labour market outcomes;

Establishment of Regional Skills Leadership Groups and Regional Workforce Plans

- 2 **agreed** to establish Regional Skills Leadership Groups for each of the fifteen standard geographic regions;
- 3 **agreed** that the purpose of Regional Skills Leadership Groups is to facilitate dialogue about regional labour market needs;
- 4 **agreed** that Regional Skills Leadership Groups will be required to develop Regional Workforce Plans that highlight labour supply and demand trends for the region and identify where change is needed;
- 5 **noted** that there is no intention for Regional Skills Leadership Groups to duplicate the work already done by regions which have existing regional economic development plans;
- 6 **agreed** that Regional Workforce Plans will be refreshed or reaffirmed on an annual basis;
- 7 **agreed** that Regional Skills Leadership Groups will be required to consult relevant stakeholders on the development and renewal of Regional Workforce Plans and to engage with relevant stakeholders before reaffirming a Plan;

Composition and appointment of Regional Skills Leadership Groups

- 8 **agreed** that Regional Skills Leadership Groups shall have representation from both supply and demand side participants (including businesses, unions and iwi);
- 9 **agreed** that representatives of agencies overseeing the relevant central government systems (welfare, immigration and education) will be required on each Group, but will not outweigh the number of regional representatives on each Group (and is likely to be significantly less);

- 10 **agreed** that the appointments process will be administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment;
- 11 **agreed** that the Minister of Education, the Minister of Social Development, the Minister of Immigration, the Minister for Seniors, and the Minister of Employment will report to the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee:
- 11.1 seeking agreement to appointments to the chair of each Regional Skills Leadership Group;
- 11.2 with reports on the composition of each Regional Skills Leadership Group (in terms of interests represented), prior to appointments being made, but not on the individual members being appointed or subsequent membership appointment rounds, unless the composition changes;
- 12 **agreed** that in undertaking the appointment process for Regional Skills Leadership Groups, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will adhere to the following principles:
- 12.1 achieve balance between regional stakeholder representation and empowerment, and retaining groups at a workable size;
- 12.2 represent the agencies overseeing the relevant systems (welfare, immigration, and education), as well as the interests specific to the region (such as local government, businesses, workers and communities);
- 12.3 ensure that the representatives of interests specific to the region make up the majority of the members on the groups;
- 12.4 represent iwi, given their key role in building the Māori economy, the kaupapa Māori approach of the welfare overhaul, and Whānau Ora employment outcome;
- 12.5 facilitate effective and efficient outcomes by avoiding duplication or replacement of bodies and processes already underway within the region;
- 13 **agreed** that in undertaking the appointment process for Regional Skills Leadership Groups, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will be required to undertake consultation with any appropriate parties before decisions are made;

Resourcing and financial implications

Confidential advice to Government

Implementation reporting to Cabinet Priorities Committee

- 17 **agreed** that future progress reports to the Cabinet Priorities Committee include advice on implementation of Regional Skills Leadership Groups.

Gerrard Carter
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Andrew Little
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Hon Jenny Salesa
Hon Tracey Martin
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Aupito William Sio
Hon Poto Williams
Jan Logie, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the Chair
Officials Committee for SWC

Hard-copy distribution:

Minister of Education
Minister for Social Development
Minister of Immigration
Minister for Seniors
Minister of Employment