

AIDE MEMOIRE

To: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
From: Ellen MacGregor-Reid, Deputy Secretary, Early Learning and Student Achievement
Date: 29/11/17
Subject: NCEA review – oral item to Cabinet on Terms of Reference

Purpose

1. This aide memoire supports you to bring an oral item to Cabinet on 4 December, seeking approval to delegate Power to Act to the Cabinet Business Committee (CBC) in relation to the Terms of Reference for and high-level approach to the review of the National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEA).

Speaking points

2. In line with our manifesto commitments and regulatory requirements, I have announced that over the next year, the Ministry of Education will review NCEA, starting with the release of Terms of Reference for the review before Christmas.
3. The Ministry of Education has been working with the education agencies to prepare a draft Terms of Reference, and to identify an approach to review NCEA over the next 12 months.
4. On 5 and 6 December, the Ministry will host two fora with key stakeholders on NCEA – including representatives of the education sector, employers and industry, young people and the wider community – to input into the Terms of Reference before they are finalised.
5. Following this meeting, I will seek Cabinet approval to the Terms of Reference for release.
6. In order for these to be released before schools break for the year I am seeking Cabinet's agreement to the Cabinet Business Committee having Power to Act at its meeting of 13 December.

Proposed recommended actions for Cabinet

7. We recommend that you ask Cabinet to:
 - a. **agree** to delegate Power to Act to the Cabinet Business Committee, to approve Terms of Reference for the NCEA review, and approve the release of those Terms of Reference, at its meeting of 13 December.



Ellen MacGregor-Reid

Deputy Secretary, Early Learning and Student Achievement