

AIDE MEMOIRE



To: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
From: Ellen MacGregor-Reid, Deputy Secretary, Early Learning and Student Achievement
Date: 5 December 2017
Subject: NCEA Review Steering Group

Purpose

1. We have provided your office with a draft Cabinet Paper *Reviewing NCEA* [METIS 1095505 refers] for Cabinet Business Committee on 13 December, seeking agreement to release Terms of Reference for the NCEA review.
2. This aide memoire explains the approach taken in the draft Cabinet Paper to the creation of a steering group of innovative thinkers to support the review of NCEA, and notes opportunities to scope this group's role.

Role of the Steering Group

3. In preparing for the review of NCEA, you have indicated that you would like our thinking to be informed by innovative thinkers to challenge thinking about NCEA, and that these thinkers should form what you have described as a steering group. You have not indicated whether you want this group to report to you, or to the Ministry of Education.
4. In the draft Cabinet Paper *Reviewing NCEA*, we have suggested that this group be convened as a Ministerial Advisory Group – given that their primary purpose is to provide advice and guidance. As we noted in the Education Report *Review of NCEA – Consultation and approval*, which we provided to you on 29 November 2017 [METIS 1094083 refers], the advantage of this approach is that it will provide you with independent thinking on NCEA and the NCEA review. We can change these sections of the Cabinet Paper if you would prefer this group to report to the Ministry of Education.



Ellen MacGregor-Reid

Deputy Secretary, Early Learning and Student Achievement