

TO: EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL
FROM: MELISSA BROOK – MANAGER, STRATEGY AND POLICY
MEETING DATE: TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2019

SUBMISSION ON THE REFORM OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

SUMMARY

This report presents a draft submission on the Government's proposed reform of vocational education for Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Report 'Submission on the Reform of Vocational Education' is received; and

That Council notes the submission may require amendment prior to being submitted and appoints Cr Amundsen, Cr Abbott, Cr Ludlow, Cr Pottinger and Cr Thomas, the authority to approve any changes; and

That Council approves the draft submission, including any amendments, be provided to the Government.

IMPLICATIONS

1.	<i>Has this been provided for in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan?</i> No
2.	<i>Is a budget amendment required?</i> No
3.	<i>Is this matter significant in terms of Council's Policy on Significance?</i> No
4.	<i>Implications in terms of other Council Strategic Documents or Council Policy?</i> No
5.	<i>Have the views of affected or interested persons been obtained and is any further public consultation required?</i> N/A
6.	<i>Has the Child, Youth and Family Friendly Policy been considered?</i> Yes

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications arise from this report.

SUBMISSION ON THE REFORM OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Council officers have drafted a submission (**Appendix 1**) in response to the Government’s request for feedback on its proposed reform of the Vocational Education sector. The draft submission is based on the consultation documents provided by the Government, including the draft Regulatory Impact Statement. It is noted that the documents do not always align with what the Minister has stated when presenting to stakeholders on the proposal. It is further recognised that this process is occurring in a dynamic space and that the detail of the proposal has changed over the course of the consultation period. It is considered prudent to enable officers to continue to develop the submission should new information be provided prior to the close of submissions on 3 April. To ensure that any amendments continue to reflect the view of the Invercargill City Council, it is recommended that the Committee Chairs be appointed to review any amendments drafted prior to it being sent. His Worship the Mayor Sir Tim Shadbolt has not been recommended by officers to review any further amendments due to his role as an ambassador for SIT.

The draft submission focuses on two areas. The first is the fact that the potential impacts of the proposals are not yet known or quantified, and that Council would likely wish to comment further once they are known. The second is the impact that the SIT has on our local community and how it is a success story within the sector. The submission asserts that this success has not been adequately recognised within the consultation documents and arguably has not been adequately considered within the development of the proposed reforms.

