

3.1 Quality Roading and Services Growing Employment

14 February 2019

SENIOR REGIONAL OFFICIALS

PGF APPLICATION REPORT BACK – QUALITY ROADING SERVICES (QRS) TRAINING FACILITY BUSINESS CASE

Summary

1. On 25 October 2018 SROs approved funding of \$60,000 for the QRS Training Facility Business Case Application subject to the Provincial Development Unit (PDU) Skills and Employment Team (Te Ara Mahi (TAM)) assessing the application and the assessment being presented to SROs.
2. The TAM Team has completed an assessment of the QRS Application.
3. This memo is to provide you with the detail of the assessment, see appendix 1 for the full assessment. The advice provided to SROs in October 2018 can also be found at appendix 2.
4. In summary, the TAM Team assessment is supportive of the QRS Training Facility Business Case Application being funded, subject to the following conditions:
 - QRS to engage with all relevant iwi in the region as part of the development of the feasibility study.
 - A requisite of the study include how the facility will connect with regional businesses/potential employers to provide pathways for trainees at the facility. This will also include a specific focus on enabling the local workforce to access/transition into skilled employment (not just low skilled jobs).
 - A requisite of the study include how the facility will connect with other regionally based training providers in Wairoa (in terms of employment pathways).
 - A requisite of the study include a sustainable financial business model for the facility.
5. In October the PDU Investment Team included that a condition of funding would be subject to the Head of the Investment Team being comfortable with the final scope and choice of consultant.
6. The Investment Team and TAM Team within PDU recommend that the funding for this proposal be allocated against the TAM \$Commercial Information from the PGF for investment in employment, skills and capability.

Recommendations:

- a) **Note** that SROs approved \$60,000 for the QRS Training Facility Business Case in October 2018.
- b) **Note** this approval was conditional on the basis that:
- i. The PDU TAM Team complete an assessment on the QRS application and then report to SROs.
 - ii. The Head of the PDU Investments Team supports the final scope of the project and choice of the consultant.
- c) **Note** the attached advice from Te Ara Mahi supporting the recommendation to approve the QRS Training Facility Business Case application.
- d) **Approve** \$60,000 of grant funding for the QRS Training Facility Business Case subject to:
- i. The Head of the PDU Investment Team being comfortable with the final scope and choice of the consultant.
 - ii. A requisite of the business case to include:
 - i. Engagement with all relevant iwi in the region about the proposed facility.
 - ii. How the facility will connect with regional businesses/potential employers to provide pathways for trainees at the facility. This will also include a specific focus on enabling the local workforce to access/transition into skilled employment (not just low skilled jobs).
 - iii. How the facility will connect with other regionally based training providers in Wairoa (in terms of employment pathways).
 - iv. A sustainable financial business model for the facility.

Staci Hare
Investment Team

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Te Ara Mahi Application Assessment – QRS Facility

Appendix 2 – SRO Coversheet QRS Training Facility Business Case Application