



COVER SHEET – PGF SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT (TE ARA MAHI)

2.6 Whanganui Work Ready Passport Initiative Te Ara Mahi (TAM) Application		For: Approve	
Tier: 1 - Regional	Sector: Skills		
Background & context:		Recommendation(s):	
<p>Applicant Organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whanganui District Employment Training Trust (WDETT) <p>Location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whanganui <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whanganui Work Ready Passport Initiative <p>Funding Sought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total project value: \$ [Commercial Information] PGF Funding: \$94,500 <p>Background. Implementing the Work Ready Passport (WRP) for school leavers in Whanganui will ensure that students are able to prove that they are 'ready for work', improving their chances of employment and helping employers identify the best candidates for jobs. This initial phase is a proof of concept to demonstrate the effectiveness of the WRP by industry, schools and Whanganui & Partners (the economic development arm of Whanganui District Council). It is an important part of the 100% SWEET initiative that is delivered by the Whanganui District Employment Training Trust (WDETT). The Whanganui District Employment Training Trust (WDETT) exists to advance employment and education to meet the needs of local industry. It was originally established to oversee the INTRANZ industry training program, and in April 2017 agreed to be the umbrella group for the 100% SWEET service (100% SWEET stands for 100% of Students in Whanganui being in</p>		<p>We recommend that the SRO(s)</p> <p>a) Approve \$94,500 from the Te Ara Mahi portion of the Provincial Growth Fund towards Whanganui Work Ready Passport</p> <p>Notes:</p> <p>a) Note – release of \$94,500 contingent on WDETT receiving funding from other sources- Commercial Information - \$ [Commercial Information] - \$ [Commercial Information] - \$ [Commercial Information]</p> <p>b) Note Full due diligence has been completed – no issues</p> <p>c) Note – This application aligns to tier 1 building skills and capability</p>	

Education, Employment or Training, a solution for connecting school leavers with tertiary and employment opportunities).

This application was originally declined at the application phase as more information was required on how this initiative links in with other initiatives in the wider region. [Commercial Information] and [Commercial Information] have met with WDETT and been assured they will work to complement Talent Central and accordingly Talent Central will continue as a steward of the Work Ready Passport for the region and support WDETT. The Manawatu Chamber of Commerce completed a report (appendix 1) on the WRP and identified having both WDETT and Talent Central as key deliverers of this initiative.

	Response	PDU (TAM) Statement regarding achievability of target
Number of people expected to be targeted by the project/activity annually:	400-500 young people to be put through the Work Ready Passport	Achievable as WDETT has confirmed that it will be getting assistance from Talent Central to make sure they reach this target.
Number of people expected to attain employment as a result of the project/activity:	[Commercial Information] young people to gain employment from this	Aspirational goal, although they have indicated the demand exists, with this resourcing the placements can be made
High level outcomes sought by the project/activity:	To have over 50 businesses signed up and supporting the initiative to make it sustainable. Offering the Work Ready Passport to [Commercial Inform] young people and over [Comm] businesses a year.	
Detail of who else is involved in funding the project/activity:	[Commercial Information] - [Comm] [Commercial Information] - [Commercial Info] [Commercial I] - [Comm] [Commercial Inform] - [Commercial Info]	

PGF Skills & Employment criteria that this proposal supports:

Te Ara Mahi Criteria	Assessment Commentary	Met (Y /N/Partial)
Link with fund and government outcomes – delivers benefit to communities		
Acts as a catalyst for improving productivity potential in the region (s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By linking school students with job opportunities with local employers 	Y
Aligns with relevant regional economic and employment plans and priorities, including any Māori development plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links with Manawatu Whanganui Accelerate 25 economic development plans to promote linkages between local demand and local supply 	y
Demonstrates potential to meet the current or future labour market skill needs of the region, including those resulting from PGF Tier 2 and 3 investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WDETT is working with growth industries in the Whanganui area. 	y
Reduces the rates of people not in employment, education and training, with an emphasis on Māori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the WRP, WDETT will be providing a prevention strategy for NEETS 	y
Increases local employment and earning potential, by supporting local people into local jobs, with an emphasis on sustainable employment outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WDETT is working directly with local people and local supply to develop employment outcomes 	y
Additionality – adds value by building on what is already there		
Addresses a gap in current service provision e.g. does not cover activities that are already funded for (unless funding is to up-scale or re-start, existing projects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WRP has been identified as a gap in the market. Schools do not have the capacity to deliver the programme. 	Y
Demonstrates why third party funding, including other government agencies, cannot be used to address the current gap in service provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WRP requires extra resource and capability which is not available to schools or employers. Other regions have relied heavily on economic development agencies and contributions from a range of sources to deliver this as no one govt agency has the scope to deliver this. 	Y
Demonstrates awareness of and ability to connect to other services/initiatives that are complementary to the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WRP will partner with Talent Central which is the leading provider and steward of this product in the Manawatu – Whanganui region. 	Y
Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks		

<p>Has support and input, where applicable, from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local; industry, employers, community groups and employment bodies/governance mechanisms central and local government agencies iwi and other Māori governance mechanisms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comm local stakeholder support Commercial Information 	<p>Y</p>
<p>Governance, risk management and project execution</p>		
<p>Has robust project management and governance systems planned or in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WDETT Trust Board will act as the steering group for the project, with 100% SWEET staff managing the project on a day-to-day basis 	
<p>Demonstrates the capacity and technical capabilities to effectively implement the initiative e.g. has experience in building local capacity, lifting work readiness and knowledge of the local labour market</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% SWEET staff directly report to the WDETT Trust Board and have set KPIs to achieve. Staff will be responsible for liaising with schools and industry, with support from the Trust Board to engage businesses where needed. Other partners – such as the Whanganui Chamber of Commerce – will assist with aspects of the WRP (such as final interviews). 	
<p>Risk management approach outlined</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement has taken place with WDETT to outline risks associated with receipt of govt funds 	
<p>Future ownership / operational management identified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan is to make this initiative fully sustainable in a years time via employer support 	
<p>The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending/ declining PGF funds for.....project</p>		
<p>Regional Governance Group View:</p> <p>Risks and Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This initiative has a dependency on Talent Central which is delivering the WRP across the region. Agreements have been made that Talent Central will support WDETT. <p>Eligibility points of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Due diligence:-</i> Full due diligence completed – no issues Commercial Information <i>Conflict(s) of interest:-</i> Based on the information provided no conflict of interest is evident noting that full due diligence will inform this item further. <i>Illegal Activity:-</i> Based on the application information provided and feedback from other agencies there is no indication that the applicant or project has been involved in, or associated with illegal activity. <i>Alignment with Regional development plans:-</i> <i>Commercial funding availability:-</i> Given the nature of the project which is to implement the Work Ready 		

Passport, access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option.									
Consultation undertaken or implications:									
Legal	N/A	HR	N/A	Finance	N/A	MBIE policy	N/A	Other	
Cross agency feedback (national offices): MSD Region and TPK Advice from regional and any other PDU teams: <i>PDU regional Lead, SWEP</i>									
Supporting proposal:				Yes					
Appendices:				Yes - Applications and supporting letters are as annexes					
Sponsor(s):				N/A					
Manager/Author of paper:				AM - SWEP Team					

PROACTIVELY RELEASED