

COVER SHEET – PGF SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT (HE POUTAMA RANGATHI)

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| 3.12 WHANGAREI YOUTH SPACE (WYS) START – He Poutama Rangatahi (HPR) Application | | For: Approval | |
| Tier: | 1 - Regional | Sector: | Skills |
| Background & context: | | Recommendation(s): | |
| <p>Applicant Organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whangarei Youth Space (WYS) <p>Location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whangarei <p>Proposal: WYS START is an intensive supported “transition to employment” programme where some of the most troubled rangatahi will be mentored by skilled Kaimahi to transition into meaningful work. The target group of ^{Comm} rangatahi over the life of the project will include referrals from Oranga Tamariki, Alternative Education, MSD and walk-ins</p> <p>Grant Funding Sought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total project value: \$880,000 (Commercial Information) <p>Commercial In - \$ Commercial Informat Commercial In - \$ Commercial Inform Commercial In - \$ Commercial Inform</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>Whangarei Youth Space (WYS) is a youth development organisation established in 2014 which provides a social drop-in centre for after-school and holiday activities, programmes and events, wellbeing and health (including clinical services) and support services for young people between 12 and 24 years. All services are free. Of the rangatahi that attend WYS 81</p> | | <p>We recommend that the SRO(s)</p> <p>a) Approve \$880,000 from He Poutama Rangatahi funding in the Provincial Growth Fund towards WYS START</p> <p>a) Note that the Northland Skills and Employment Strategy Group endorse this application in principle subject to alignment with wider regional initiatives.</p> <p>b) Note letters of support provided from Te Ora Hou, Chamber of Commerce, 155 Whare Awhina Community House, Child & Youth Friendly cities, Mayor’s office Whangarei District Council.</p> | |

¹ Subject to start date

per cent identify as Maori. The WYS has a focus of improving outcomes and life opportunities for rangatahi and their whanau. WYS already has on-site health support funded by Ministry of Health which will be used to support this project.

WYS START (support, teach, action, relationships, transitions) programme combines a foundation of pastoral care with solid support and coaching of a parent, guardian/significant adult close to the rangatahi to transition them into sustainable employment.

This programme is to provide one on one mentoring and pastoral care to rangatahi through Kaimahi/mentors to equip them with essential hard and soft skills to be employable and to further sustainable positive personal outcomes.

Kaimahi will work with rangatahi to ensure they have the appropriate and necessary documentation to work, such as driver's licenses, birth certificates, IRD number, bank account etc. They will also provide financial mentoring, budgeting, literacy, transport and housing support where needed.

The **Commercial Information** programme is structured in the following way:

- **Commercial Information** intensive work readiness support
- **Commercial Information** transition to work support
- **Commercial Information** in-work support (which the employer also receives)

In addition to the Kaimahi who work with each rangatahi for the **Commercial Information** to ensure sustainable employment, there **Commercial Information** focused on employer engagement and coordination; they will ensure there are employment placements available and assist with the transition period of rangatahi into employment.

The application demonstrates that it addresses community aspirations and local opportunities, uses relevant expertise to link rangatahi (a balance of both males and female) to skills and employment, utilises local knowledge, relationships and infrastructure and is responsive to local rangatahi, local employers and the local context.

| PGF Skills & Employment criteria that this proposal supports: | | |
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| 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"> This programme targets unemployed and disengaged rangatahi and provides an intensive pastoral care programme to equip them with life and employment skills. The proposal will link them to and support them in sustained local employment thus improving productively within the region. | Yes |
| Aligns with relevant regional economic and employment plans and priorities, including any Māori development plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills and employment are a regional priority. Further this programme plans to bridge the gap from school to employment for a high risk group of rangatahi. Most WYS clients are Māori and NEETs – both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. | Yes |
| 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"> Based on local research, WYS START will focus on the hospitality, infrastructure/construction, aged care and service centres. Some of these opportunities may arise from PGF investments around Whangarei and other local areas including construction and tourism. | Yes |
| Reduces the rates of people not in employment, education and training, with an emphasis on Māori | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northland has a higher than average rate of NEETs and in particular Maori NEETs. The programme aims to give young rangatahi at high risk of long term employment soft and hard skills and to assist them into sustainable employment. The target group is aged between 16–25 and is predominantly Maori. 80% of current WYS clients identify as Māori. All will be unemployed NEETs and the target group will include referrals from MSD, Oranga Tamaki, Alternative education and walk-ins. | Yes |
| 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"> The project provides local rangatahi with work skills and networks to local employment opportunities in Whangarei. The project aims to secure sustained employment by providing support through a Kaimahi whilst in employment. | Yes |
| 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme was developed in response to the needs of WYS clients. The NSESG indicate that this programme fills a gap in Whangarei where current systems struggle with the | Yes |

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| or re-start, existing projects) | <p>most disengaged rangatahi.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current programmes cannot match this intensive 'transition to employment' programme. | |
| 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 project supports working intensively with rangatahi and whanau including when in employment. • WYS already has on-site health support funded by Ministry of Health – this will not change. • The sort of intensive support proposed to support disengaged unemployed rangatahi is not provided by MSD (who indicate they will look to utilise these services). | Yes |
| Demonstrates awareness of and ability to connect to other services/initiatives that are complementary to the project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant has shown awareness of complementary services as they already link to Oranga Tamariki and the Ministry of Health. • As a result of this application MSD will also link more actively with WYS to discuss options and experiences with He Poutama Taitamariki (an MSD led HPR scheme) clients | Yes |
| 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"> • Letters of support provided Commercial Information • NSESG have endorsed this application • WYS is building a relationship with Te Huinga which includes representatives of the hapu of Whangarei. • Heemi Kapu-Kingi now confirmed on the WYS Board and has whakapapa's to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Aupōuri • Ngāpuhi • Waikato-Tainui and • Te Whānau-ā-Apanui | Yes |
| Governance, risk management and project execution | | |
| Has robust project management and governance systems planned or in place | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYS has provided evidence of its governance structure and detailed timeline for delivering project. • WYS also has been providing services for Oranga Tamariki for several years and fulfilling their reporting and evaluation requirements. | Yes |
| Demonstrates the capacity and technical capabilities to effectively implement the initiative e.g. has | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kaimahi are a professional team of youth workers and clinicians. WYS has been operating since 2014. | Yes |

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| experience in building local capacity, lifting work readiness and knowledge of the local labour market | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5+ years experience delivering this type of service • 30,000 positive youth interventions • Level 3 MSD Accreditation • Contract with Oranga Tamariki | |
| Risk management approach outlined | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYS outline a project management approach in their application. | Yes |
| Future ownership / operational management identified | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whangarei Youth Space is a charitable Trust established in 2014. This will not change. • The project will be subject to ongoing Evaluation and Monitoring by MBIE and managed through an Outcomes Based contract • If successful they will use the learnings from this expansion as a basis for seeking future funding if required | Yes |

The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending PGF funds for WYS START

Regional Governance Group View:

The Northland Skills and Employment have endorsed this application

Risks and Issues:

Include where applicable:

- *Advice on PR/Ministerial announcements and events.*
- *Communications opportunities/risks associated with the project*
- *Opportunities for cross MBIE engagement.*
- *Potential impacts on MBIE staff, stakeholders and reputation.*
- *Cross agency risks and implications.*
- *Dependencies with other related projects.*

Eligibility points of note:

- *Due diligence:- Full due diligence is being completed.*
- *Conflict(s) of interest:- No conflict of interest is evident*
- *Illegal Activity:- 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.*
- *Alignment with Regional development plans:-Aligns with regional priorities*
- *Commercial funding availability: Given the nature of the project which is aimed at supporting young rangatahi who are far from employment access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option.*

Consultation undertaken or implications:

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| Legal | N/A | HR | N/A | Finance | N/A | MBIE policy | N/A | Other | |
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A number of emails and meetings took place with Whangarei Youth space in order to clarify aspects of their training programme. This led to a reduction in cost from the original application, greater detail on the proposal and better identification of relationships with Iwi.

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| Supporting proposal: | Yes |
| Appendices: | Yes - Applications and supporting letters are as annexes |
| Sponsor(s): | N/A |
| Manager/Author of paper: | Ben Dalton – Stephen Ruddell |

PROACTIVELY RELEASED