

PROACTIVE RELEASE COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Willie Jackson	Portfolio	Employment
Title of Cabinet Paper	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Willie Jackson	Date to be published	28 November 2019

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
18 November 2019	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Willie Jackson	Office of the Minister of Employment
18 November 2019	CAB-19-MIN-0602	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO *(please select)*

Any information redacted in this document is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reason of Privacy of natural persons.

In Confidence

Office of the Minister of Employment

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Willie Jackson

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to England and Scotland between Sunday 29 September and Monday 7 October 2019.

Report

- 1 In London I met with the Director of Apprenticeships at the Education and Skills Funding Agency, where we discussed the approach the Director is taking in the United Kingdom to encourage more people into formal apprenticeships, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds and how their progress could be applied to New Zealand.
- 2 I was hosted by Privacy of natural persons of the Big Youth Group and was invited as the keynote speaker at the Big Youth Group Breakfast that was attended by industry leaders and multinational organisations. I spoke about employment initiatives in New Zealand aimed at engaging our young people not in employment or education. I shared with them the work we are doing through Mana in Mahi and He Poutama Rangatahi.
- 3 After the Big Youth Group breakfast I met with a group of young people who are benefiting from the work that is being done. They shared with me the barriers they feel they face seeking employment in London. I was able to share with them the New Zealand experience and the work we are doing directly with our young people.
- 4 Officials at the Department of Work and Pensions met with me to discuss the interventions they are using particularly for young people to increase their access to quality employment. The learnings from this meeting will be applied to how we approach the delivery of the Youth Employment Action plan here in New Zealand.
- 5 Following my engagements in England, I travelled to Scotland for a series of meetings.
- 6 In Glasgow I met with officials from Skills Development Scotland where we discussed the approach they are taking with their regional employment and skills programmes. Most of this meeting centred on how they are engaging with each region in Scotland to best meet the needs of those that live there. The information that they shared with me will help form our thinking around the continued development of our own Regional Skills Leaderships Groups.

- 7 At the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh I met with Privacy of natural persons, the Minister for Business, Fair Work and Skills. This was an opportunity to learn about the employment market in Scotland and the work Scotland is doing to be inclusive. We discussed this at some length due to its similarity to New Zealand's Employment Strategy where multiple agencies are working to deliver a productive, sustainable and inclusive package for New Zealand.
- 8 I met with representatives from WorkingRite, which is an Edinburgh based NGO working with young people who are the furthest away from the labour market and have multiple barriers to finding suitable employment. The service it provides is very similar to our own employment programme He Poutama Rangatahi, and this was an opportunity to confirm if the approach we are taking compares well with international models.

Proactive release

1. I propose to proactively release this paper, subject to consideration of any necessary redactions, within 30 business days of decisions being made by Cabinet.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Willie Jackson

Minister of Employment