## Deirdre Marshall – ‘Find out more about CoVEs’ video

Welcome everyone. I’m Deirdre Marshall from the Reform of Vocational Education or RoVE team, here at TEC. In this video series, we will look at some of the key parts of the new vocational education system that will be created through RoVE.

Today, I’ll be talking to you about Centres of Vocational Excellence or CoVEs.

Firstly, a little background about RoVE:

Education Minister Chris Hipkins announced the Reform of Vocational Education on 1 August 2019 and it is the biggest change to New Zealand’s vocational education system in a generation.

RoVE will create a strong, unified, sustainable vocational education system that is fit for the future of work and delivers the skills that learners, employers and communities need to thrive. Centres of Vocational Excellence have a key role to play in this new system so it’s important to understand their role and function.

So, what are CoVEs?

The role of each CoVE will be to drive innovation and excellence in vocational education, by strengthening the links between industry and communities.

Each CoVE will be based at a site of the New Zealand Institute of Skills & Technology, or a wānanga, and will involve industry representatives, researchers, providers and other relevant groups working together to share best practice and knowledge.

The first two CoVEs will be a Construction CoVE and a Primary Sector CoVE, but the scope and coverage of future CoVEs could be defined by industry, occupation, or by type of delivery, for example: kaupapa Māori, online learning, or foundation education.

The exciting thing about CoVEs is that the specific functions and activity of each CoVE will be generated by the applicants rather than tightly specified by the government. TEC will make sure that each CoVE is a genuine centre of excellence, bringing together the right people to identify opportunities, solve problems, and drive innovation.

Now, where to from here?

The selection process has two-stages: We are currently accepting Registrations of Interest for the Primary Sector and Construction CoVEs.

These will be assessed by a panel of experts, and shortlisted applicants will be asked to provide more detail in a request for a proposal. The successful candidates will be announced in the middle of this year.

There is a total of $5 million of funding for the first two pilot CoVEs. While initial funding is for a defined period, CoVEs will be an enduring part of the New Zealand vocational education system.

You can find out more about CoVEs and the other parts of the reform on the TEC website at tec.govt.nz/rove.

Thank you for your time today.  Tēnā koutou katoa.