

## Event backgrounder: WelTec house removal – Rimutaka Prison

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<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
<b>From:</b>	Section 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Operations Directorate
<b>Date:</b>	24 April 2018
<b>Reference:</b>	E/18/00219

### Purpose

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1. You have accepted an invitation from Wellington Institute of Technology (WelTec) to attend the removal of a WelTec house, built by Department of Corrections' (Corrections) learners, from Rimutaka prison on Friday 27 April 2018.
2. The purpose of the event is to promote WelTec's trades training and the outcomes of training delivered at Rimutaka prison. The house will be added to Housing New Zealand's Lower Hutt stock of social housing.
3. This backgrounder provides you an overview of WelTec's prison delivery and general information on the polytechnic. Biographies for Dame Fran Wilde and Nancy McIntosh Ward (WelTec and Whitireia Council) and Chris Gosling (WelTec and Whitireia Chief Executive) are included in the Appendix.
4. We recommend that you release this event backgrounder in full once it has been considered by you.

### WelTec's prison delivery has good course completions

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5. WelTec works closely with Corrections to deliver training at Rimutaka Prison to support post-release employment options. In 2017<sup>1</sup>, WelTec delivered training to 146 Corrections' learners in the facility, compared to 192 learners in 2016.
6. Training is delivered from levels 2 to 4 in trades-related fields that are well aligned to WelTec's main provision. The following courses were delivered in 2016 and 2017:
  - Building, Construction, and Allied Trade Skills (Level 2)
  - National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 2) (Vocational Pathway Construction and Infrastructure Sector)
  - New Zealand Certificate in Construction Trade Skills (Level 3)
  - Certificate in Brick and Block Laying (Level 3)

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<sup>1</sup> All 2017 figures are indicative as at 24 April 2018. Data includes all prison delivery available through TEC systems.

- Certificate in Foundation Studies (Level 3)
  - Certificate in Pre-trade Plumbing & Gasfitting (Level 3)
  - Certificate in Applied Decorating Skills (Level 4).
7. The average course completion rate for TEC funded Corrections delivery was 88% in 2016 and 89% for 2017. The 2016 rate is above the ITP sector average of 80%; 2017 educational performance data is yet to be finalised.

## **WelTec focuses on providing vocational skills for industry**

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8. WelTec delivers primarily through its Petone campus and several sites in the Wellington CBD. It also delivers niche health provision (Addiction and Counselling) in Auckland.
9. The largest fields of Student Achievement Component (SAC) related study at WelTec in 2017 were: Architecture and Building (19%); Food, Hospitality and Personal Services (16%); Information Technology (15%); and Engineering and Related Technologies (14%).
10. The polytechnic focuses on providing vocational skills for industry. WelTec is proactive in supporting its trade graduates into employment through brokerage services. It has formed strong links with employers in the Wellington region, and with government agencies such as Housing New Zealand.
11. In 2018, WelTec has an on-plan funding allocation of \$23.6 million. \$20 million of this funding is for delivery of SAC funding at level 3 and above. WelTec also receives funding for Youth Guarantee and Trades Academies.
12. WelTec and Whitireia New Zealand (an ITP based in Porirua) have formed a strategic partnership to improve operational efficiency and educational benefits for learners. Since 2012, both organisations have been led by a joint council. Chris Gosling was appointed as the Chief Executive across both institutions in 2015. His leadership team works across both organisations.

## **Key initiatives and areas of interest**

13. In 2015, WelTec opened its Regional School of Construction, which was built in association with Whitireia. Located in Petone, it has the capacity for more than 220 learners on site at any one time.
14. Since 2014, WelTec has been a key partner in a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training consortium with Whitireia. In 2018, the consortium has committed to deliver pre-trades training to just over 200 learners.
15. In February 2018, the New Zealand Institute of Creativity, a joint venture between WelTec and Whitireia was opened. It combines the WelTec and Whitireia schools of television and film production, hair and makeup artistry, digital art, digital media, writing, publishing, dance, circus and acting. The campus is located in Central Wellington and can accommodate up to 1000 learners.

## **TEC and Corrections have a memorandum of understanding**

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16. TEC has a memorandum of understanding with Corrections. TEC is working to align our current investment in tertiary education with Corrections' needs. This includes refining our operational approach to ensure delivery for Corrections is more fit for purpose and acknowledges the difficult delivery environment. We are working to strengthen relationships between providers and prisons.
17. The TEC will also be analysing the impact of Corrections' delivery on providers' educational performance indicators to establish whether such delivery should be considered separately to other Education Performance Indicators.

### **Section 9(2)(a)**

#### **Section 9(2)(a)**

Tertiary Education Commission

24 April 2018

**Hon Chris Hipkins**

Minister of Education

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## Appendix: Biographies of key staff/attendees

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### **Dame Fran Wilde DNZM, QSO, JP, Council Member WelTec and Whitireia Combined Council**



Fran is a council appointed member, appointed to the WelTec Whitireia Combined Council in March 2014. Her current term is due to end on 31 December 2019. She was previously an MP and Cabinet Minister, as well as Mayor of Wellington (1992-1995) and Chair of the Wellington Regional Council (2007-2015). Fran was made a Dame Companion to the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the State and the community in the 2017 New Year Honours List. Her CNZM was awarded in 2012; QSO in 1995 when she was also named Wellingtonian of the year.

Business roles include CEO of the NZ Trade Development Board and chair and/or director on the boards of a number of listed, state owned and privately held companies.

Fran has also run her own consultancy business and has played a key role in Wellington and national philanthropic and arts organisations. She is a Chartered Fellow of the Institute of Directors and holds an honorary doctorate in law from Victoria University of Wellington from which she earlier graduated with a BA degree.

### **Nancy McIntosh Ward, Council Member WelTec and Whitireia Combined Council**



Nancy is a council appointed member, appointed to the WelTec Whitireia Combined Council in January 2012. Her current term is due to end on 31 December 2019. She holds an MBA and is a Chartered Accountant. She is the former Chief Executive of the Karori Sanctuary Trust and has extensive financial, management, commercial, governance, tertiary education and marketing experience. From 1996 – 2002, Nancy was the Executive Director - Strategic Development and General Manager - Finance and Business at the Open Polytechnic. She is currently a consultant at McIntosh Ward & Associates specialising in strategy development to delivery. Nancy is a member of the Institute of Directors.

### **Chris Gosling, Chief Executive WelTec and Whitireia**



Chris has been Chief Executive of WelTec and Whitireia since May 2015. He was previously Deputy Chief Executive (Operations) at Whitireia. He is the former Corporate Services Director at the Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT). He is a Chartered Accountant with membership of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and a board member of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce.