**Workforce Project update**

**Follow up from briefing session with Careerforce**

Comprehensive information was provided along with a general orientation to the qualifications. There was strong endorsement for the concept of specialist role strands being developed using the level 5 Diploma. Project co-leads will be following up further with Careerforce.

**Engagement with Toitu te Waiora (WDC)**

The new Chief Executive (Donovan Clarke) is arranging a meeting for us with two key personnel who will be able to contribute to the qualification projects. The level 5 qualification review is due to get underway early next year and this will be an opportunity to better align the programme with specialist role strands. The review will be led by the WDC as part of the qualification development and review function transferring from Careerforce. Ultimately it will be Toitu te Waiora that will pick up the outcomes of these workforce projects, along with any further work that is needed.

**Follow up from Steering Group meeting**

The group appeared satisfied and confident about how project co-leads are intending to proceed with engagement, how they will draw on the involvement of Steering Group members and their sector connections and the proposed project structure which includes a “Partnership Group” to ensure the voices of disabled people, Maori and Pasifika are kept to the fore in terms of guidance and accountability.

**Shaping up stakeholder engagement and project operational structure**

* Project co-leads will focus on relationship building with key individuals and groups over the coming weeks to build support for the projects from parts of the sector that have not been well engaged with before around the development of qualifications. This investment will lead to the establishment of the “Partnership Group” to ensure these voices continue to inform and guide throughout the life of the projects. The intersectionality of many people’s involvement will be tapped into to make the best use of people’s time and available commitment.
* The engagement and relationship building will lead to invitations to a sector wide virtual forum in mid-February where we will share information about the projects and the intended operational structure, the mahi that needs to be undertaken and the contributions we are looking for.
* Project co-leads will continue to meet and collaborate around the sharing of each other’s networks as we build towards the development of specific project teams.
* In parallel with the above project co-leads will begin assembling resources, literature, research and other evidence around what constitutes effective content and delivery for the respective qualifications as well as talent and production expertise for the training videos. This means that project teams will not have to start with a blank canvass. Sourcing this material will also identify potential key contributors to the work of the project teams.

**Funding a Partnership approach**

Supporting an authentic partnership approach takes time and resources – which needs to be seen as an investment in achieving great outcomes, not a cost burden. Careerforce has already indicated a commitment to provide additional investment and we need clarity in this regard from MoH and MSD. Note that we will need to quantify what additional investment is needed in addition to the funds we already have available for the project.