



File No. DOIA 1920-1779

John Luke

fyi-request-13011-62f0fe08@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

Thank you for your email of 3 June 2020 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

I noted on your website, not sure if this is your responsibility or MBIE, but will send that to you anyway.

<https://www.tec.govt.nz/rove/regional-skills-leadership-groups/>

May I kindly request the update of this initiative "We are still planning to establish the groups in mid-2020." and how you plan to call for express of interest for Regional Skills Leadership Groups and has the job description or term of reference been drafted? If yes, may I request them.

Also, may I request the copy of this proposal "concrete proposals that will be provided to Ministers at the end of February 2020."

Our response

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is providing you with two ministerial papers (attached) relevant to the establishment of (interim) Regional Skills Leadership Groups (iRSLGs).

These are:

- *Regional Skills Leadership Groups: composition proposals, February 2020* – including a separate annexed document
- *Establishing interim Regional Skills Leadership Groups to support COVID-19 response, April 2020*

MBIE is also providing you with copies of the:

- Terms of Reference, including a separate annexed document
- Position descriptions for iRSLG Chair and Member.

In response to your question about the process for identifying and appointing members, due to the labour market disruptions caused by COVID-19 and need to establish these interim bodies quickly, MBIE ran an expedited process for the initial membership of the iRSLGs. As such, MBIE did not conduct a general call for expressions of interest; rather, it worked with regional stakeholders, such as the Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Agencies and existing regional groups, to identify suitable candidates to serve as business, local government, and community representatives on the iRSLGs. The New Zealand Council of Trade Unions put forward suggested worker representatives, and

iwi and Māori business groups nominated iwi representatives for the groups. In most regions, the Regional Public Service Lead is the central government representative on the group.

All iRSLG members are formally appointed by the Chief Executive of MBIE.

It is expected that within a year the interim RSLGs will transition to full RSLGs. The key difference between interim RSLGs and full RSLGs is that the latter will be expected to produce an annual Regional Workforce Plan. The Chairs of the full RSLGs will also be appointed by the Appointments and Honours Committee of Cabinet, following an expression of interest process. Likewise, each region will run an expression of interest process for other members of the group over the following 12 months.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of response to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at:

www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HK', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Heather Kirkham

Director, Strategic Labour Market Policy