



Te Pūkenga

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30 March 2023

Shaun Campbell

By email: fyi-request-21790-96087634@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Shaun

Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Competenz apprentices

I refer to my letter to you dated 10 March 2023 in response to your request for information dated 10 February 2023. Thank you for your email of the same day, specifying that you would like the information requested below in relation to the NZ Certificate in Fabrication:

I would like to get information on the percentage of apprentices under the competenz programme who are currently listed as "NOT ON TARGET".

I would also like to get information on the average number of years for apprentices to complete their apprenticeships; and the completion rate of apprentices who enter their programmes.

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Background context

As at 1 January 2023, Competenz became part of Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga). As you may be aware, the New Zealand Certificate in Fabrication is delivered through a combination of in-work training and block courses delivered through ‘provider based’ providers, such as the former polytechnics. All of New Zealand’s 16 former polytechnics are also now part of Te Pūkenga.

Due to the high number of in-work assessments involved with the New Zealand Certificate in Fabrication, apprentice progression and completion were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 lockdowns. Numerous apprentices were not considered essential workers and were therefore not able to be on site during lockdowns. If apprentices were onsite, they were focused on essential production for employers, not on completing on-the-job learning material. Additionally, during the lockdown period, apprentices were not able to attend any on-campus learning. This meant that Te Pūkenga Competenz had to cancel more than 50 block courses, which impeded the progress of apprentices further.

The decision

As at 13 March 2023, there are 885 learners enrolled with Te Pūkenga - Competenz in the NZ Certificate in Fabrication. Ninety six percent of these apprentices are on track to complete their qualification within the expected qualification duration, and four percent are currently over the expected duration of their training.

At the end of 2022, it took an average of 45 months for Competenz apprentices to complete the NZ Certificate in Fabrication. This is on track with industry expectations. Please note that in calculating this average, we have excluded any learners who had prior learning which meant they could complete their apprenticeship sooner.

At year end 2022, 53 percent of apprentices completed their apprenticeship from enrolments in the previous years.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Peter Winder
Tumuaki | Chief Executive

