



Te Pūkenga

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Jackson Fowler

By email: fyi-request-24700-78493070@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Jackson

Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Plastics Industry Training

Thank you for your email of 9 November 2023, requesting the following information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga). We have numbered your queries for ease of reference:

- 1. How many current learners/apprentices are enrolled in plastics processing programs in New Zealand?*
- 2. How many learners/apprentices were awarded New Zealand plastics processing certificates/qualifications in the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023?*
- 3. How many New Zealand employers currently have learners/apprentices enrolled on a Plastics processing training program?*
- 4. How many new learners/apprentices does Te Pūkenga/Competenz expect to enrol in 2024?*

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

The decision

We have interpreted “plastic processing programmes”, within the date range of your request, as the following two qualifications offered by Competenz | Te Pūkenga:

- *New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strand in Plastics Engineering*
- *New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Engineering (Level 4)*

The three tables below provide the information you have requested for questions 1-3, as at 27 November 2023.

Please note that some ākonga enrol in what is known as a Complex Programme, whereby they are enrolled in both Level 3 and Level 4 qualifications concurrently. In such cases ākonga are included in both the Level 3 and 4 figures within the tables, and so we have also provided the distinct ākonga figures for each, as well as the distinct employer numbers for question 3.

Question One

Current number of ākonga enrolled, by qualification

| Qualification | Ākonga enrolled |
|---|-----------------|
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strand in Plastics Engineering | 34 |
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Engineering (Level 4) | 69 |
| Distinct ākonga | 96 |

Question Two

Number of ākonga awarded certificates/qualifications, by qualification and calendar year

| Qualification | Ākonga awarded certificates | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023* |
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strand in Plastics Engineering | 4 | 12 | 8 | 24 | 23 |
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Engineering (Level 4) | <4 | <4 | 7 | 11 | 14 |
| Distinct ākonga | <8 | <16 | 13 | 32 | 34 |

*As we are still in 2023, figures provided may be incomplete and are as at 27 November.

Providing the exact breakdown for years 2019 and 2020 above would yield numbers of Level 4 graduates less than four. Therefore, we have withheld the exact numbers with reliance on section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and have totalled the data differently for these two years. We do not believe the need to withhold this information is outweighed by the public interest in its release.

Question Three

Current number of employers with ākonga/apprentices enrolled, by qualification

| Qualification | Employers |
|---|-----------|
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strand in Plastics Engineering | 28 |
| New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Engineering (Level 4) | 20 |
| Distinct employers | 28 |

Question Four

Competenz | Te Pūkenga expects enrolment figures to be approximately 100 ākonga for 2024 for these two qualifications.

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