

VOTE *Education* *Review Office*

Education Review Office

Overview

Departmental appropriations sought for Vote Education Review Office in 2006/07 total \$28.984 million. This is intended to be spent as follows:

- \$8.896 million (31% of the Vote) on purchasing reviews of early childhood education service providers.
- \$16.556 million (57% of the Vote) on purchasing reviews of schools and other education service providers.
- \$3.532 million (12% of the Vote) on purchasing education evaluation reports, policy services, ministerial services and contractual services.

Details of how the appropriations are to be applied appear in Parts B1, C and E of this Vote.

Terms and Definitions Used

ERO Education Review Office

Minister Portfolio Table

27 Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office

Education Review Office

VOTE MINISTER: Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office

ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT: Education Review Office

The Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office is the Responsible Minister for the Education Review Office

Part A - Statement of Objectives and Trends

Part A1 - Objectives for Vote

The pre-tertiary education sector - schools and early childhood services - accounts for a significant amount of the Government's expenditure, mostly through funding of providers responsible for the actual delivery of education.

Education is an important contributor to the Government's priorities for economic transformation, families young and old and national identity. High education standards provide every child with the firm foundation for future learning.

The Education Review Office reviews and reports on the performance of schools, early childhood services and others that provide pre-tertiary education to young people. The focus of these education reviews is on educational improvement, but ERO continues to have responsibility for reviewing the compliance of schools and early childhood education services with the law and regulations. In carrying out this external review role, ERO's aim is to support the Government's priorities by making a positive contribution towards the delivery of pre-tertiary education to all young New Zealanders that is of the highest quality.

The Education Review Office's national evaluation reports and review reports on individual schools and early childhood services are used by education providers, by parents and communities, and by the Government and its education policy advisers.

Output Expense Appropriations

To achieve these objectives, the appropriations are intended to fund Accountability Reviews of Early Childhood Education Services and of Schools and Other Education Service Providers, and Quality of Education Reports and Services from the Education Review Office.

Accountability Reviews inform the governing bodies of educational institutions, their staff and parents about the quality of education being provided to young children and school students. These reviews assist local providers and communities to raise the level of educational achievement and to reduce disparities, in particular for Māori and Pacific students.

Quality of Education Reports and Services provide a broader, national perspective on the quality of service delivery and educational outcomes within the pre-tertiary education sector. These reports and services assist the Government and its policy advisers in developing and reviewing national policies on pre-tertiary education to achieve the Government's desired outcomes.

Part A2 - Trends in Vote

Departmental Output Trends: 2001/02 - 2006/07

Appropriation levels for outputs supplied by the Education Review Office have increased from \$18.376 million in 2001/02 to \$28.984 million in 2006/07. The Vote was increased:

- in 2001/02 for the developmental and implementation of new evaluation methodology for kura kaupapa Māori
- in 2001/02 to 2005/06 for improved review coverage of schools and early childhood services
- in 2003/04:
 - for an evaluation of attached units
 - for an evaluation of beginning teachers' teaching skills and knowledge
- in 2003/04 to 2005/06 for maintaining capability in the face of increased input costs
- in 2003/04 to 2005/06 for implementing the State Sector Retirement Savings Scheme funded by the State Services Commission
- in 2004/05:
 - for an ongoing programme to assess the delivery of education and the extent to which the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students is being implemented in New Zealand schools
 - for maintaining ERO capability for review of early childhood services and kura kaupapa Māori
 - for a national evaluation of special education assistance
 - for an evaluation of students' effective access to the information landscape
- in 2004/05 and 2005/06 for an ongoing programme to carry out quality assurance of schools providing adult and community education programmes
- in 2005/06:
 - for recruiting and retaining appropriately skilled review officers following increases in teaching salaries
 - for an evaluation of schools' usage of operational funding
 - for an evaluation of collection and use of assessment information by schools.

In 2006/07 changes to the Vote include:

- a further increase of \$45,000 for maintaining ERO capability for review of early childhood services and kura kaupapa Māori
- a further increase of \$524,000 for recruiting and retaining appropriately skilled review officers following increases in teaching salaries
- \$446,000 additional funding to carry out an evaluation of effectiveness of schools' engagement with parents/whānau/communities.

New Policy Initiatives by Appropriation

| Initiative | Appropriation as shown in Part B | \$000 increase/(decrease) | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 |
| Evaluation of Effectiveness of Schools' Engagement with Parents/Whānau/Communities | Departmental Output Expense - Quality of Education Reports and Services | - | 446 | 90 | - | - |
| Total Initiatives | | - | 446 | 90 | - | - |

Part B - Statement of Appropriations

Summary of Financial Activity

| | 2001/02 | 2002/03 | 2003/04 | 2004/05 | 2005/06 | | 2006/07 Appropriations to be Used | | | | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | Actual \$000 | Actual \$000 | Actual \$000 | Actual \$000 | Budget \$000 | Estimated Actual \$000 | By the Department Administering the Vote | | For Non-Departmental Transactions | | Total \$000 | Estimated \$000 | Estimated \$000 | Estimated \$000 |
| | | | | | | | Annual \$000 | Other \$000 | Annual \$000 | Other \$000 | | | | |
| Appropriations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output Expenses | 18,376 | 18,838 | 21,200 | 25,244 | 28,693 | 28,428 | 28,984 | - | - | - | 28,984 | 28,752 | 28,662 | 28,662 |
| Benefits and Other Unrequited Expenses | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowing Expenses | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Expenses | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Capital Expenditure | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - |
| Total Appropriations | 18,376 | 18,838 | 21,200 | 25,244 | 28,693 | 28,428 | 28,984 | - | - | - | 28,984 | 28,752 | 28,662 | 28,662 |
| Crown Revenue and Receipts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tax Revenue | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - |
| Non-Tax Revenue | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - |
| Capital Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - |
| Total Crown Revenue and Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - |

Part B1 - Details of Appropriations

| Appropriations | 2005/06 | | | | 2006/07 | | Scope of 2006/07 Appropriations |
|--|---------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--|
| | Budget | | Estimated Actual | | Vote | | |
| | Annual \$000 | Other \$000 | Annual \$000 | Other \$000 | Annual \$000 | Other \$000 | |
| Departmental Output Expenses (General) | | | | | | | |
| Accountability Reviews MCOA | | | | | | | Basis: The outputs use similar resources and work toward the same outcome of ensuring the delivery of the highest quality pre-tertiary education to all young New Zealanders. |
| Early Childhood Education Services | - | - | - | - | 8,896 | - | Evaluations of the performance of early childhood education services. |
| Schools and Other Education Service Providers | - | - | - | - | 16,556 | - | Evaluations of the performance of schools and other education service providers. |
| Accountability Reviews (M27) | - | - | - | - | 25,452 | - | |
| Accountability Reviews - Early Childhood Education Services (M27) | 8,466 | - | 8,366 | - | - | - | Evaluations of the performance of early childhood education services. Reason for Change: This is now part of the new MCOA Accountability Reviews. |
| Accountability Reviews - Schools and Other Education Service Providers (M27) | 16,759 | - | 16,644 | - | - | - | Evaluations of the performance of schools and other education service providers. Reason for Change: This is now part of the new MCOA Accountability Reviews. |
| Quality of Education Reports and Services (M27) | 3,468 | - | 3,418 | - | 3,532 | - | The provision of national education evaluation reports, policy services, ministerial and contractual services. Reason for Change: The decrease for 2006/07 relates to a lower final year of funding to carry out evaluations of schools' usage of operational funding and the collection and use of assessment information by schools. This is offset by increases for 2006/07 to carry out an evaluation of effectiveness of schools' engagement with parents/whānau/communities and to maintain ERO's capability. |
| Total Departmental Output Expenses (General) | 28,693 | - | 28,428 | - | 28,984 | - | |
| Total Appropriations | 28,693 | - | 28,428 | - | 28,984 | - | |

Part C - Explanation of Appropriations for Output Expenses

Part C1 - Departmental Output Expenses

Accountability Reviews

ERO has established a multi-class output expense appropriation called *Accountability Reviews* from 2006/07. This multi-class output expense appropriation aggregates ERO's appropriations for *Accountability Reviews - Early Childhood Education Services* (now Output Class *Early Childhood Education Services*) and *Accountability Reviews - Schools and Other Education Service Providers* (now Output Class *Schools and Other Education Service Providers*). The appropriations deliver the same service (education reviews) to two different parts of the education sector (early childhood services and schools). Both of the output classes use similar resources in working toward the same outcome of ensuring delivery of the highest quality pre-tertiary education to all young New Zealanders. Grouping these will recognise this alignment and allow for more flexibility in resourcing levels across the two.

Accountability Reviews - Early Childhood Education Services

Under this output class the Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office purchases evaluations of the performance of early childhood education services. These reviews include:

- education reviews of early childhood education services
- post-review assistance to early childhood education services.

Education reviews in the early childhood education sector focus on the quality of education and care and address the following review areas:

- programme delivery
- other review priorities such as management and staffing
- areas of national interest
- legal compliance including health and safety issues.

Post-review assistance to early childhood education providers is provided in the form of specific ERO assistance to help governing bodies of services to develop a plan of action to address serious issues identified during an education review relating to the education of children.

Review reports inform the Crown, the governing bodies of services, their staff and parents about the quality of education and management practices.

Accountability Reviews - Schools and Other Education Service Providers

Under this output class the Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office purchases evaluations of the performance of schools and other education service providers. These reviews include:

- education reviews of state schools - primary and secondary
- homeschooling reviews
- private school reviews
- post-review assistance to schools.

Education reviews focus on the following areas:

- school specific priorities (determined following discussions with the school)
- areas of national interest
- compliance issues.

Homeschooling reviews are reviews of programmes for students granted exemption from attendance at school.

Private school reviews are carried out in order to meet the statutory requirement to review registered private schools at least three yearly.

Post-review assistance to schools is provided in the form of specific ERO assistance to help boards of trustees to develop a plan of action to address serious issues relating to the education of students identified during an education review.

Review reports inform the Crown, the governing bodies of schools, their staff and parents about the quality of education and management practices.

Quality of Education Reports and Services

Under this output the Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office purchases:

- education evaluation reports
- policy services
- ministerial services
- contractual services.

Education evaluation reports evaluate educational issues including delivery of the curriculum, the effectiveness of governance, management structures and systems, student achievement, the delivery of teaching services and barriers to learning across a number of institutions. Education evaluation reports may include guides to good practice.

Education evaluation reports tend to follow specific themes. These themes may be drawn from issues arising from the Government's education initiatives and issues of strategic importance identified by ERO from its regular reporting on schools and early childhood education services.

Policy services involve advice to or on behalf of the Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office, on policy proposals or any other issues referred to, or identified by, the Chief Review Officer.

ERO is not primarily a provider of policy advice. From its regular presence in schools and early childhood education services it is, however, in a position to make a useful contribution to assist the policy agencies. This service contributes to the Government's policy priorities for schools and early childhood education service providers.

Ministerial services include the provision of oral briefings and briefing papers to the Minister, preparation of answers to Parliamentary questions, drafting of ministerial correspondence and speech notes, and responding to general and official information requests. Ministerial services also include advice to the Minister on the implementation of recommendations arising from institutional evaluations and evaluation reports, or any other matter on which the Minister seeks additional information or feedback.

Contractual services include one-off reviews of institutions (or certain aspects of them), and analyses of particular matters under specific terms of reference agreed with ERO. Contractual reviews are conducted on a fee-for-service basis.

Part E - Explanation of Capital Flows

Part E1 - Explanation of Movements in Departmental Net Asset Schedules

| Details of Net Asset Schedule for Education Review Office | Estimated Actual 2005/06 \$000 | Projected 2006/07 \$000 | Explanation of Projected Movements in 2006/07 |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Opening Balance | 3,772 | 3,785 | |
| Capital Injections | 13 | - | |
| Capital Withdrawals | - | - | |
| Surplus to be Retained (Deficit Incurred) | - | - | |
| Other Movements | - | - | |
| Closing Balance | 3,785 | 3,785 | |