



Lesley Hoskin
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By email to lesley.hoskin@teachingcouncil.nz

27 May 2022

Tēnā koe Lesley

Re: Fees and Levy - further period of consultation

Apologies this letter is late for your process. The Early Childhood Council (ECC) has considered both options the Teaching Council proposed and does not support any option that involves a distribution only to persons with a Limited Authority to Teach.

Individuals with a Limited Authority to Teach are equivalent to Unqualified Teachers in the early learning context. We do not recommend inclusion of Unqualified Teachers, nor would it be appropriate because the Teaching Council does not currently hold information on them.

The other consideration in the early learning context is that the fees and levies are in many cases costs that centre managers pay for their staff as an extended employment benefit. So again, we encourage the Teaching Council to adopt an approach that is workable for both schools and early learning – so ideally a universal reduction to the cost for all teachers. I appreciate this makes a very small amount if spread over a very large group of people. An alternative would be to repurpose the funds for another purpose. I don't think any teacher would appreciate such a minute refund. It would be meaningless and waste a good opportunity.

Alternatively, another option would be the Teaching Council retains the funds to help reduce the significant deficit. The Early Childhood Council considers supporting the Teaching Council and the Teaching Council's ability to be effective as the most important objective. Distribution of funds back to teachers is not a priority. Our position would likely be different if a larger sum of money was at stake.

I am sorry this letter was not sent earlier. We remain eager to help and assist the Teaching Council in any way we can. Please do take inclusive approaches to teachers in our sector. We can assist with consultation approaches and include promotion of initiatives you are running in our monthly newsletters and/or work with you to run webinars or other sessions to get better engagement from ECE teachers.

Ngā mihi nui

Simon

Simon Laube
Chief Executive Officer
Early Childhood Council