

Barton Deakin Brief: New Zealand Government 2016-17 Pre-Budget Announcements No. 5

23 May 2016

New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon Bill English MP, will hand down the National-led government's eighth budget on Thursday, 26 May 2016.

A number of pre-Budget announcements have already been made including:

- \$14.4 million toward apprenticeship training;
- \$9.6 million toward the Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (**MPTT**) programme; and
- \$4.6 million toward Pacific Employment Support Services (**PSS**).

This Barton Deakin Brief outlines the key aspects of these funding commitments.

Apprenticeship Training

New Zealand's Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, the Hon Steven Joyce MP announced \$14.4 million over four years that will provide for more apprenticeship training.

More than 42,000 people enrolled in apprenticeships and apprenticeship training in 2015. This new funding will support another 5,500 apprentices by 2020 and aims to contribute to projected skill shortages in high-demand industries such as construction and infrastructure.

To view the media release from the Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, click [here](#).

Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT)

The Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, the Hon Steven Joyce MP and the Minister of Maori Development, the Hon Te Ururoa Flavell MP announced an additional \$9.6 million over four years to meet the growing demand for the Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (**MPTT**) programme.

This funding will provide 2,500 placements in the [MPTT](#) programme in 2016, and 3,400 placements in 2017, with a target of 5,000 annually by 2019. The programme aims to encourage young Māori and Pasifika to take up a trade to meet emerging shortages in construction and infrastructure trades.

The \$9.6 million commitment, funded from a contingency established in Budget 2015, allows youth to progress directly to MPTT from school or other training at the age of 16 or 17, rather than waiting until the age of 18. The maximum age for entry was also raised, from 34 to 40 years of age.

Brokerage funding increased from \$733 to \$1000 per student, with 30 per cent of this paid only when learners progress to workplace-based training such as a [New Zealand Apprenticeship](#).

To view the media release from the Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment and the Minister of Maori Development, click [here](#).



Pacific Employment Support Services (PESS)

The Minister of Pacific People's, the Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-liga MP announced \$4.6 million over four years will be allocated to the [Pacific Employment Support Services \(PESS\)](#). The funding aims to help young Pacific people in Auckland find work.

PESS identifies the needs of each participant, and then develops a tailored programme which includes literacy and numeracy training, communication and interview skills, as well as career counselling and planning. The additional \$4.6 million will be operating funding for this programme.

To view the media release from the Minister of Pacific People's, click [here](#).

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