

Report: Draft Cabinet paper - Next stage of the Charter School | Kura Hourua model

To:	Hon David Seymour, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Erica Stanford, Minister of Education		
Date:	11/06/2025	Deadline:	17/06/2025
Security Level:	In-Confidence	Priority:	Medium
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Why are we sending this to you?

- This report seeks your agreement to a draft Cabinet paper: 'Next stage of the Charter School | Kura Hourua model', attached as Annex 1.
- We are seeking your feedback on the draft Cabinet paper, including if the changes will be included in Education and Training (System Reform 9(2)(f) Amendment Bill (ERB)). We also seek your agreement for departmental consultation, which we will undertake after we have incorporated your feedback.

Key facts, issues and questions

- We have previously provided you with advice on proposals to:
 - enable a sponsor to hold a single contract for multiple charter schools (METIS 1343146, 1344104 and 1344778 refers), and
 - provide more certainty for converted charter schools that a similar type of State school may be established if the sponsor voluntarily terminates their contract (METIS 1342784 and 1344777 refers).
- Your office has also asked to include an extension of the fixed-term contract period from 10 to 20 years with a possibility to renew two further times for 10 years in the Cabinet paper. This is not a legislative change but requires Cabinet's agreement as the original 10-year term was agreed by Cabinet [SOU-24-MIN-0015].
- We have drafted content relating to reversion of converted schools to the State sector based on Minister Seymour's decisions. This may require changes when we have received Minister Stanford's feedback on this proposal.
- Drafting of ERB is expected to start in July. If the proposed legislative changes are to be progressed in ERB, departmental consultation will need to begin as soon as possible (by 19 June at the latest, to get Cabinet decisions in July).

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **note** that the Ministry of Education has drafted a Cabinet paper with legislative policy changes relating to charter schools | kura hourua based on previous decisions you have made (METIS 1343146, 1344104, 1344778, 1342784 and 1344777 refers).

Noted

- b. **provide** feedback on the draft Cabinet paper: 'Next stage of the Charter School | Kura Hourua model' (Annex 1).

Provided

- c. **note** that this draft Cabinet paper may change subject to:

- a. the Minister of Education's decision on the paper: 'Charter schools – legislative amendments for a pathway back to a State school' (METIS 1344777 refers), and
b. whether the charter school legislation changes are to be included in the Education and Training (System Reform 9(2)(f)) Amendment Bill.

Noted

- d. **agree** that the Ministry of Education consult with other departmental agencies on the Cabinet paper after incorporating any feedback you provide.

Agree / Disagree

- e. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this paper once Cabinet has approved the proposed legislation changes with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982

Agree / Disagree



Alanna Sullivan-Vaughan
Senior Policy Manager
Te Pou Kaupapahere

Hon David Seymour
Associate Minister of Education

11/06/2025

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