

SUMMARY OF APPROVED 2012 INVESTMENT PLAN



Plan Context

Mission, role and functions, and how these relate to the planned outcomes

Our role in the system is:

- To provide a clear pathway from secondary school through our level 2 and 4 certificates and on to apprenticeship or relevant employment.
- To provide learners with an affordable qualification using modern learning materials and unique course design and delivery.
- To provide employers with suitable staff who have gained relevant knowledge and skills for entry to the building industry at reasonable cost to taxpayers.

Key background information about G&H

- G&H is an established specialist provider of carpentry theory training set up to provide a pathway from school (STAR/USIS) through our certificates to apprenticeship or work, that is affordable for learners, at reasonable cost to taxpayers. We provide employers with potential employees with knowledge and skills for entry to industry. We also provide, block courses for BCITO and PGDR apprentices, and web-based carpentry theory.
- Our delivery sites are in Whangarei, North Shore, Manukau City, Hamilton, Napier (including head office), Palmerston North, Wellington and New Plymouth.
- We provide a staircase of training from short Trades Skills courses we run for secondary schools, through our Level 2 and Level 4 certificated courses, and on to apprenticeships and relevant employment.

Government priorities in the Tertiary Education Strategy

We have strong links with local communities for recruitment of priority groups: Of all our full time students in 2011, 85% were under-25, 48% were Maori, 11% were Pasifika and 98% were male (due to our industry focus).

Although we have relatively high enrolments of priority groups, we have relatively low levels of inequitable results compared to published sector benchmarks. We monitor this gap and aim to reduce it year by year with improved tutoring and mentoring.

We actively promote trades training in schools, at careers expos, and in our Modern Apprenticeship coordination work.

We have embedded literacy and numeracy development in our Youth Guarantee course and are running an extensive tutor training programme to enable our tutors to effectively use the Literacy Numeracy for Adults Assessment Tool to inform their work with students and to show learner progress.

Our improvement projects include upgrading each of our training venues over time and improving the resources and educational opportunities we provide for our students.

We have a reliable system to gather and use stakeholder feedback to identify the value and relevance of our programmes and services and areas for improvement. We monitor market signals from government agencies (Labour, Statistics, Building and Housing), along with industry stakeholders (BCITO, Master Builders, local employers) to keep our teaching materials up to date and our training delivery relevant and effective. Despite the ongoing constraints in the construction industry we maintain our employer networks to keep us in touch with industry developments and provide contacts for our graduating students.

Our student feedback from Maori, Pasifika and young people indicates a high level of satisfaction with their G&H experience in relation to educational goals, purpose for undertaking the training, and cultural needs being met.

Our collaboration efforts are focused on consulting with schools, government agencies, ITPs, ITOs and other training providers to match our services to help meet their needs.

We have sound monitoring and reporting systems to provide early warning of any issues with educational performance, and to provide sound information and evidence for self assessment.

Summary of Activity

SAC funding

The training approved for 2012 is the G&H Certificate in Pre-employment Carpentry L4 for 170 EFTS. This course delivers tutor-supported self-paced learning (using our in-house e-learning system for our carpentry theory content where possible which returns assessment results promptly and tracks individual progress), alongside workshop projects, site visits and work experience. Learners like being able to start at any time during the year, and employers like having access to graduates when they need them.

Youth Guarantee funding

The training approved for 2012 are the G&H Certificate in Practical Construction Skills L2 for 71 places in eight locations around the North Island, and two National Certificates for entry to the motor industry (L1 and L2) in Lower Hutt. These courses deliver industry theory through tutor-supported learning; workshop projects; literacy, numeracy and preparation for progression to higher learning; and activities such as site visits and work experience. Learners like being in an environment where they feel treated as adults and can see their study helping them get ready for their next step into the adult world.

Our primary aim for Youth Guarantee learners is to help them progress to our Level 4 Certificate course.

Modern Apprenticeships funding

We have been allocated approximately 529 places (initial allocation) for Modern Apprenticeship coordination, mainly for the construction related industries, in locations covering all the North Island other than East Coast / Bay of Plenty.

Other training not funded by TEC

- We run a range of Trades Skills courses for secondary school students at our branches or at the schools to encourage young people to move successfully from school to tertiary education. Our courses suit learners who are less academically inclined and enjoy hands-on, practical work, and support government initiatives such as Trades Academies, Gateway and STAR courses.
- We run block courses and some night classes for PGDRITO apprentices and for BCITO apprentices.
- We work hard to help our learners into relevant employment or into an apprenticeship where they can complete a qualification. We make efforts to give our graduates the skills, knowledge and experience to be competitive despite economic impacts on our industry.

Performance Commitments

We have made performance commitments in relation to the following:

SAC EFTS L4 – Maori participation, course completions, course completions for students aged <25, qualification completions, qualification completions for students aged <25, retention, progression.

Youth Guarantee – proportion of programmes containing embedded literacy and numeracy, qualification and course completion, student retention, student progression.