

**Notice of Meeting:**

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on:

**Date:** Wednesday 7 August 2024  
**Time:** 1.00 pm  
**Venue:** Council Chamber, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, The Octagon, Dunedin

Sandy Graham  
Chief Executive Officer

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**Economic Development Committee  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

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**MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Cr Andrew Whiley	
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Cr Christine Garey	
<b>Members</b>	Cr Bill Acklin	Cr Sophie Barker
	Cr David Benson-Pope	Cr Kevin Gilbert
	Cr Carmen Houlahan	Cr Marie Laufiso
	Cr Cherry Lucas	Cr Mandy Mayhem
	Cr Jim O'Malley	Mayor Jules Radich
	Cr Lee Vandervis	Cr Steve Walker
	Cr Brent Weatherall	

**Senior Officer** Nicola Morand, Manahautū (General Manager Māori Partnerships and Policy)

**Governance Support Officer** Jennifer Lapham

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Jennifer Lapham  
Governance Support Officer

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**Note:** Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

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## **PART A REPORTS**

### **REDESIGN OF THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM**

Department: Executive Leadership Team

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1 This report provides the Committee with early notice of the Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education proposal for the Redesign of Vocational Education and Training System which is out for public consultation.
- 2 The Otago Polytechnic Te Kura Matatini Ki Otago (the Polytechnic) has asked the Council publicly support a proposal for the Otago Polytechnic to “stand alone”.
- 3 Council does not have a formal position and this report asks the Committee to endorse a position for the Council to adopt at its 27 August 2024 meeting.
- 4 This endorsement would enable the Polytechnic to work with Council and community leaders to lobby government for the return of a stand-alone Polytechnic.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Committee:

- a) **Recommends** Council supports the Otago Polytechnic Te Kura Matatini Ki Otago position to become a stand-alone institution.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 5 This is a late report pursuant to section 9.12 of Standing Orders – Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed.

*A meeting may deal with an item of business that is not on the agenda where the meeting resolves to deal with that item and the Chairperson provides the following information during the public part of the meeting:*

*(a) the reason the item is not on the agenda; and*

*(b) the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.*

(s. 46A (9), LGOIMA)

*Items not on the agenda may be brought before the meeting through a report from either the chief executive or Chairperson.*

- 6 This report is from the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to the Standing Order 9.12.
- 7 The reason the item was not on the agenda is that staff and the Mayor's office only became aware of the issue late on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of August which was after the agenda had been published.
- 8 The discussion cannot be delayed if Council are to provide meaningful support for the Polytechnic as the next Council meeting is not until 27 August 2024. Formal submissions close on 12 September 2024.
- 9 The CEO discussed the matter with the Chair of the Economic Development Committee and agreed that an urgent report was appropriate in these circumstances.

## **DISCUSSION**

- 10 A key strategic theme of the current Economic Development Strategy 2013-2023 (the strategy) is "a hub of skills and talent".
- 11 The strategy proposes actions that focus on employment pathways for school and tertiary students. It further recognises the importance of a skilled workforce to support business development and the need for opportunities to continually upskill the workforce and allow workers to grow their careers.
- 12 A strong Polytechnic supports those and other aims of the strategy.
- 13 Council support for the proposal will carry great weight, particularly given the Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills, the Hon Penny Simmonds (the Minister) has gone on record around importance of local autonomy for such institutions. The Minister was a strong opponent of the previous model.
- 14 Business South have indicated provisional support for this proposal although they have yet to consider it formally. At this stage there have been no discussions with mana whenua or other territorial authorities.
- 15 Representatives from the Polytechnic will be present at the meeting to provide further information and to answer questions.
- 16 A formal written submission on the proposal will be drafted for Council consideration on 27 August 2024.

## **OPTIONS**

- 17 Given time constraints and the need to get this report to the Committee, an options assessment has not been completed.

**NEXT STEPS**

- 18 The Polytechnic will be advised of the decision and staff will work to support the Polytechnic’s initiatives for gaining community support. Depending on the direction from the Committee, staff will look to engage with Business South and other key stakeholders in order to gain wider support for the proposal.
  
- 19 A draft submission will be presented to Council on 27 August 2024 for consideration.

**Signatories**

Authoriser:	Sandy Graham - Chief Executive Officer
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**Attachments**

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# Redesign of the vocational education and training system

Proposals for public consultation







































































