



Education Report: Supporting schools to showcase music, drama and dance 2018

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	12 April 2018	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1119333
Drafter:	Nunia Ngauamo	DDI:	[REDACTED]
Key Contact:	Chris Harwood	DDI:	[REDACTED]
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No s 9(2)(a) OIA

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this paper is for you to:
 - **Note** that this service provision replaces the Stage Challenge events that were contracted until December 2017.
 - **Agree** to issue a Press Release about the services that will be delivered by the RockQuest Promotions Ltd on 16 April 2018.
2. This report advises you that the Ministry of Education has completed the evaluation process for the "Supporting schools to showcase music, drama and dance" tender to provide opportunities for students to participate in events in 2018. This is a new provision following the closure of the Stage Challenge contract in December 2017.
3. We have provided a draft press release for so that you can announce the new provider and its intended programme on 16 April 2018.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **Note** that this service provision replaces the Stage Challenge events that were contracted until December 2017.

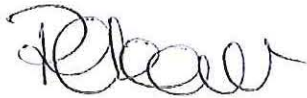
Noted

- b. **Agree** to issue a Press Release about the services that will be delivered by the RockQuest Promotions Ltd on 16 April 2018.

Agree / Disagree

- c. **Agree** that this Education Report is proactively released as part of the next publication.

Release/Not release



Pauline Cleaver
Associate Deputy Secretary
Early Learning and Student Achievement

12/4/18



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

15/4/18

Proactively Released

Background

3. In December 2017, the Stage Challenge Foundation announced to schools and informed the Ministry that it would no longer run Stage Challenge™ and J Rock® events.
4. The Ministry considered possible options to continue these type of events during 2018 while we developed a longer term, sustainable solution.
5. The Ministry identified that a budget of approximately \$800,000 (GST exclusive) would be required to support these type of events during 2018. The Ministry reviewed budget commitments for 2018 and freed up the full costs to provide the services. The budget will be met through reprioritisation of cost pressure savings identified in the Ministry's line-by-line review.
6. On 12 February 2018 the Ministry issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for its *Supporting Schools to showcase music, drama and dance* service delivery requirements for the 2018 school year on the Government Electronic Tenders Service (GETS).
7. The evaluation process for the tender has been completed with RockQuest Promotions Limited (Rockquest) identified as the preferred service provider.
8. During the selection process, we explored opportunities with the new provider to see if it was possible to reduce the Ministry's contribution. The timing of the tender and the lead in time to source sponsorship made this difficult, and at this time, no further sponsorship is available.
9. The Ministry has entered into formal negotiations with the expectation that these will be concluded no later than 16 April 2018. The contracted services will replace Stage Challenge® and J Rock™ events which ended in December 2017.
10. A draft statement for a press release on 16 April 2018 is attached for your approval.

The new service delivery for *Showcasing music, drama and dance*

11. RockQuest will supply a new name, logos and supporting collateral for the 2018 events.
12. The service provider has developed an innovative and dynamic proposal that will:
 - a. provide opportunities for students to develop and showcase their talents in dance, drama and music which are important parts of our national curriculum.
 - b. give students an opportunity to draw on personal experiences and their cultural heritages as they design and perform their own productions.

s 9(2)(j) OIA

Next steps

13. Once we understand your preferences about the proposed press release and its timing, we will work closely with your office and the provider to maximise publicity opportunities

so that schools and students are fully informed of the new opportunities by the beginning of term 2.

Risks

Risks	Mitigation
Unknown number of available performing venues suitable for the delivery of the showcase performances	Provider to work with schools / local groups and organisations to identify possible venues immediately
Lack of Schools participating due to the timing of events	Provider to communicate new programme on social media and network outlets. The Ministry to inform regional offices immediately
The Stage Challenge Foundation may claim of copyright and replication of Stage Challenge events	The Ministry is confident that we have implemented a robust process to ensure there is no replication or similar production of Stage Challenge events

Proactive Release

14. It is intended that this Education Report is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annex 1: Draft Press Release

To come.