
Date: 23 November 2020

To: Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Members

From: Max Baxter, Chair, Mayors Taskforce for Jobs

Subject: Mayors Taskforce for Jobs “Work Exposure” Fund

Kia ora koutou MTFJ members,

The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) has established a “Work Exposure” fund to support provincial and metropolitan councils to run events that enable employers to engage young people in the world of work and to build positive relationships with one another. As we focus on our economy post COVID-19, supporting young people to have meaningful connections and relationships with employers has never been more important.

There is strong international evidence from the Education and Employment Taskforce that suggests **“if young people have four or more interactions with employers whilst in secondary school, they are five times less likely to become a NEET statistic than those who had no interactions.”**

Young people have been at the forefront of job losses as a result of COVID-19 which has significantly impacted industries such as tourism, retail and hospitality. Between the months of February and April, the number of young New Zealanders aged 20 to 24 receiving the Ministry of Social Development Job Seeker Benefit increased by 62 per cent compared to the previous year.

MTFJ will be contributing \$3,000 plus GST each to 15 successful councils to run targeted events or engagements that foster meaningful connections between employers and young people (including those who are NEET’s). The funding can be spent broadly around this aim and we welcome innovative, creative and local ideas to submit on your short proposal to MTFJ, which can be submitted by filling out the application form attached. Your council may consider using this funding to; host a Speed Meet which attracts employers who showcase available jobs with young people who are looking for work; take a group of students to a work site; or support employers to run a series of events to speak about their career story to students.

A [useful report](#) from Toi EDA and leading Australian education to employment consultant, Dave Turner, may help you come up with some creative ideas when submitting your proposal, the report provides tangible examples on the three components on the Work Continuum:

- **Work exposure:** such as activities that reveal ideas, information and concepts about the world of work;
- **Work exploration:** activities in which young people explore, examine and investigate new career pathways; or
- **Work Experience:** activities that offer young people close and more sustained opportunities to participate in the workplace.

It is expected that the successful councils will lead the delivery of the event with support from MTFJ and also submit a short report on the impact of the event on the young people and employers involved. Applications will close on **Monday 7 December 2020 at 5.00pm** and the submissions will be reviewed by the MTFJ Core Group Members and the Taskforce Co-ordinator. Consideration will be made in regards to the number of young people impacted and the quality of those engagements. Please note that the event/programme that your council partakes in must take place before 30 June 2021.

Good luck and we look forward to seeing your proposals roll in.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Max Baxter', is positioned above the typed name.

Mayor Max Baxter
Chair
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs