



**WAIHANGA ARA RAU**

**Construction and  
Infrastructure**

Workforce Development Council

# ASSURANCE PLAN 2025



Mike Grumball

Waihanga Ara Rau Workforce Development Council

**Contents**

- 1. Purpose (Te whaingā matua).....2
- 2. Approval (Whakaaetanga).....2
- 3. Background (Papamuri) .....2
- 4. Assurance Plan 2025 (Rautaki Aromātairua 2025).....3
- 5. Priorities 2025.....4

## 1. PURPOSE (TE WHAINGA MATUA)

The purpose of this document is to outline the Assurance Plan for 2025 for Waihanga Ara Rau and share the plan with industry and providers through our website. The 2025 Assurance Plan builds on the work undertaken in 2024 but also reflects that 2025 will be a year of 'transition' and there will be a potential need to prioritise the work that is undertaken by the Assurance Team. The plan outlines the approach, principles, and deliverables for 2025 only. The 'how' each function will be undertaken is supported by various process and guidance documents as listed in Section 3.

## 2. APPROVAL (WHAKAAETANGA)

<b>Approved by</b>	Te Ruruhau (Assurance Committee)
<b>Date Approved</b>	
<b>Next Review</b>	31/01/2026

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Nature of Amendment</b>
1.0	10/01/2024	New document created.
2.0	08/01/2025	Reviewed for 2025

## 3. BACKGROUND (PAPAMURI)

The 2025 Assurance Plan reflects that 2025 will be a year of 'transition' due to the changes that have been announced following the VET Consultation during 2024. The 2025 Assurance Plan is flexible enough to pivot, if needed, as the year unfolds to ensure that no Assurance functions are compromised.

The Assurance Plan is based on the following principles that underpin it. Assurance:

- Ensures greater consistency of graduate outcomes, irrespective of mode of learning, provider type, or assessment context, by moderating learning outcomes to ensure national standard.
- Ensures activities identify where ākonga may be disadvantaged by assessment practices and that steps are taken to address this.
- Provides confirmation that a provider's internal moderation is working effectively.
- Takes a collaborative and evaluative approach to reach well-informed, consistent, and reliable evidence-based judgements about the capability of each provider.
- Understands assessment as an organic and cumulative process. Oftentimes, it is a, seemingly, isolated end-of-learning event. However, assessment is innately natural and takes place throughout the learner journey.
- Understands good practice assessment as an element of a system that supports and respects learners and meets industry needs.
- Assures industry that provision of training is consistent, of high quality, is equitable, and is meeting the needs of Māori, Pacific People, disabled, and other underserved ākonga.

The principles of Mātauranga Māori have been embedded into the assurance model. Tēnei Te Ara Poutama is a Mātauranga Māori Process Strategy for Waihangā Ara Rau that was designed specifically for the Assurance Team and defines how we undertake our functions.

#### **4. ASSURANCE PLAN 2025 (RAUTAKI AROMĀTAIRUA 2025)**

The Assurance Team sets priorities each year through its Assurance and Moderation Plans. The 2025 year will present challenges depending on the structure of standard setting bodies going forward. The Assurance Plan reflects what we have achieved to date and what is important for us to achieve during 2025 to ensure that the improvements we make are long lasting and have a real influence on the VET system moving forward.

'How' the Assurance Plan is implemented is aligned to the following documents:

- Self-Assurance Process
- 2025 Moderation Plan
- Moderation Process
- Consent to Assess Process
- Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR)
- Engagement Process
- Programme Endorsement Process
- Tēnei Te Ara Poutama Framework

## 5. PRIORITIES 2025

The following are the priorities for our key functions in 2025. Decisions on the continuation of, or changes to, these priorities will need to be made should our current capability change due to other demands on our resources that we do not yet know about. All decisions need to be made on the basis of maximum impact for industry across all sectors.

<p><b>Programme Endorsement and Micro-credential Support</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a key function for us to undertake, and it also includes support for micro-credentials.</li> <li>• We will reach out to all providers, to get an indication of the number of programme endorsements that we can expect during 2025 and when we can expect these. This will allow us to plan and support providers through the process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Once the VET structure is known, NZQA will need to communicate how it will deal with programme approval/accreditation for the new entities.</p>
<p><b>Pre-assessment Moderation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a key function for us to undertake.</li> <li>• We will reach out to all providers to get an indication of the number of pre-assessment moderations that we can expect during 2025 and when we can expect these.</li> <li>• Prior to the submission of material for pre-assessment moderation, we ask providers to contact their Assurance Team Lead to establish and agree on a pre-assessment moderation schedule. The schedule will include agreed timeframes and sufficiency of material to be submitted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Post-assessment Moderation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a key function for us to undertake.</li> <li>• The 2025 Moderation Plan will outline the standards, and providers, that were pre-assessment moderated in 2023 and 2024 as outlined in the 2025 Moderation Plan.</li> <li>• Additional post-assessment moderation shall be called for from providers if it is part of a project or focus area for Waihanganga Ara Rau.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consent to Assess</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a key function for us to undertake.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to the submission of a Consent to Assess application, we ask providers to contact their Assurance Team Lead to discuss their individual needs. This will help to determine the need, what information is required, and the timeframes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Providers</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ITP and WBL business units within Te Pūkenga will be the focus of our engagement and post-assessment moderation for 2025. Establishing and fostering our relationships with these individual ITP and WBL business units will be important for the wider sector going forward.</li> <li>• Engagement with all providers (ITPs, WBL, PTEs, and schools) will be based on the following principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Moderation shall be limited to the 2025 Moderation Plan and no additional moderation shall be called unless it is related to a specific project or for ITPs and WBL.</li> <li>○ We will maintain regular contact to provide support and guidance with our core functions.</li> <li>○ We will contact all providers to understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What programme or micro-credential approvals we can expect during 2025.</li> <li>▪ What pre-assessment moderation we can expect and agree on a pre-assessment moderation schedule where required.</li> <li>▪ Understand who the workplace, contracted, or employed assessors are for each provider, how they meet the CMR requirements, and their history of internal moderation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>