



*Better Skills
Better Work
Better State*



Government of South Australia
Training and Skills Commission

Communique

7 December, 2017

The Training and Skills Commission (TaSC) met on the 7 December 2017 at the Department of State Development office in Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

The Commission, at its last meeting for 2017, reviewed the year, welcomed the Minister for Higher Education and Skills who attended briefly to thank them for their continual high-level quality work provided throughout the year, and received a presentation from NCVET on relevant research and insights.

The Commission's Regional Consultation to Whyalla on 16 and 17 November 2017 was reported on positively. A draft report is being finalised.

An end of year working dinner was held following the meeting with three of the winners of the 2017 State and National Training Awards providing an overview of their experiences and upcoming roles as State Ambassadors for 2018.

Guest from NCVET

The Commission received a presentation from the Managing Director, NCVET, on its work and relevant research and insights. He was accompanied by the National Manager Statistics and Analysis, who was visiting Adelaide. The presentation highlighted the changes in NCVET referring to its new 2017-2020 Plan, and emphasised relevant data for South Australia and Nationally on the VET system.

Update from Skills and Employment, Department of State Development

Subsidised Training List 3.1: A written update on the latest Subsidised Training List (3.1) was considered.

Regional Engagement Update – Jobs and Skills for Regional SA: A written update on the next steps for the Jobs and Skills for Regional SA Project was considered.

TAFE ASQA Taskforce: A verbal report was provided on the outcomes of the ASQA Taskforce audit announced on 4 December of 16 TAFE courses which prompted many changes within the corporation, including the resignation of the TAFE SA Chief Executive and removal of the Chair of the Board. The key priority is student support – past, present, and the future. A TAFE SA Strategic Capability Review and a Quality Review will be undertaken.

Regular update on SSON: A written update on policy matters being discussed at the Skills Senior Officials Network was considered.

Skills and Employment 2017-2019 Business Plan: noted by the Commission.

Adult Community Education Program: A written update outlining progress with the implementation of the 2018-19 Adult Community Education (ACE) Program Statement was considered.

National Training Package Review

The State's representative on the Australian Industry Skills Committee, presented to the Commission on the current national Training Package Review, referring to two discussion papers:

Training Product Reform: what is the case for change?

- Addressing issues relating to unduly short courses – discussion paper – November 2017.

It was noted that Federal consultation with industry and stakeholders in all jurisdictions will be undertaken in early 2018 to further report to The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Industry and Skills Council (CISC).

'2020 Series'

Industry Priority Qualifications: The Commission received an updated project status report, and endorsed the 'Open Survey' method, as used in 2015, with some random sampling, as the surveying method to be used for the 2018 IPQ development.

Future of Traineeships and Apprenticeships: The Commission's Traineeship and Apprenticeship sub-committee continues its work in the development of the draft 2020 paper. It was noted that the Commission members who attended the recent consultation to Whyalla also spent an evening discussing the content. A three-stage approach for engagement on this topic was noted.

2020 Series Regional Profiles: A draft summary of how the Regional Profiles will be presented by the Commission was endorsed, noting that this work will feed into the Department's work. It is expected that the Regional Profiles will be completed by the end of 2017.

TaSC Sub-Committees

The Executive Sub-Committee reported on discussions relating to options for the surveying method for the 2018 Industry Priority Qualifications.

The Traineeships and Apprenticeships Sub-Committee: The Commission approved, on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee:

1. A discussion paper regarding the supervision of apprentices and trainees in South Australia; and
2. The three-stage approach to revise the *Guidelines for persons who supervise apprentices or trainees* (the *Supervision Guidelines*) – the consultation process to be confirmed.
3. *The variation of the trade name of 'Signwriter/Sign Manufacturer' to 'Sign Maker', in line with stakeholder feedback.*

The Economic and Social Investment Sub-Committee had not met since the previous Commission meeting.

The Training Awards Sub-Committee: The Commission endorsed panel Chairs for the 2018 State Training Awards, noted the key dates, and approved having only one Training Provider Award Category for 2018.

The Stakeholder Engagement Sub-Committee had not met since the previous Commission meeting.

The next Commission Meeting will be a Planning Session for 2018 to be held on Thursday and Friday, 8 and 9 February 2018.