



Australian
Industry and
Skills Committee

AISC Communique – 29 November 2022

49th Meeting of the Australian Industry and Skills Committee

In welcoming Members of the Australian Industry and Skill Committee (AISC) to its last meeting before it concludes on 31 December 2022, Emeritus Professor Tracey Horton took the opportunity to thank Members for their service, dedication, and contributions to the AISC both during, and prior to her time as Chair.

VET Reform Update

The Committee noted Skills Ministers met on Friday 18 November 2022 and committed to continue working on reforms to improve VET quality and relevance, strengthen tripartite and cross portfolio engagement, and deliver more meaningful evidence to inform skills policy in 2023.

The Committee noted:

- The training package assurance function will be housed in the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations on an interim basis, subject to a review in 2023. This function has been operationalised through agreed changes to the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF).
- Industry Cluster groupings are expected to be announced in December 2022, and will then move into the establishment phase.
- The legislation to establish Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) received Royal Assent and officially commenced operating on 16 November 2022.
- States and territories are in the process of finalising their Implementation Plans and signing onto the 12-month National Skills Agreement, while negotiations continue for the new long-term agreement.
- Consultations on qualification reforms will continue well into 2023.
- The draft revised *Standards for Registered Training Organisations* have been released and are open for consultation until the end of January 2023, along with development of the *VET Workforce Blueprint*.

CHC Community Services Training Package

The Committee noted Skills Ministers endorsed the revised *Certificate III in Individual Support* on 18 November 2022. Endorsement comes following the establishment of a small time limited expert reference group comprised of industry, training and health experts who collaborated to agree a solution to residual industry concerns. Members were pleased to hear the training product has been uploaded to the national register.

Review of the TAE Training and Education Training Package

The Committee noted Skills Ministers endorsed updates to the *TAE Training and Education Training Package* on 18 November 2022, following approval by the Committee through an out-of-session process on 11 November 2022.

Members noted Skills Minister's endorsement was assisted by presenting the case for endorsement alongside reforms to the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015*, and the *VET Workforce Quality Strategy*, allowing ministers to consider the updates holistically in the context of sector wide impact.

Reflections and Opportunities

The Committee agreed the content of the AISC *Reflections and Opportunities* paper that summarises the successes and challenges faced by the AISC during its tenure, and how a collaborative approach within the sector resolved challenges and improved aspects of training delivery. The paper also outlines good practice and innovations, and provides advice and insights that will be a valuable resource to pass on to Industry Clusters, government agencies and others across the training system.

Members agreed the paper will be made available on the AISC website.

Cases for Endorsement

The Committee considered the following **resubmitted Case for Endorsement** for referral to Skills Ministers.

| IRC | Details of submission | AISC Decision |
|--|---|---|
| Process Manufacturing, Recreational Vehicle and Laboratory IRC MSM Manufacturing Training Package Release 8.0 – Recreational Vehicle Project | The Case for Endorsement resubmission includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 updated qualifications• 1 deleted qualification• 23 updated units of competency• 6 new units of competency | Approved the training products for endorsement |

The Committee considered the following **new Cases for Endorsement** for referral to Skills Ministers.

| IRC | Details of submission | AISC Decision |
|--|--|---|
| Manufacturing and Engineering IRC MEM Manufacturing and Engineering Training Package – Release 4.0 | The Case for Endorsement includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 new qualifications• 28 new units of competency | Approved the training products for endorsement |

| IRC | Details of submission | AISC Decision |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Agriculture and Production Horticulture; and Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management IRCS</p> <p>AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package – Release 9.0</p> | <p>The Case for Endorsement includes four parts:</p> <p><i>Part 1: Agriculture and Horticulture Core Skills Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 updated qualifications • 1 deleted qualification • 2 new units of competency • 63 updated units of competency (including 2 units merged into 1) • 4 deleted units of competency <p><i>Part 2: Composting and Organic Production and Permaculture</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 updated qualifications (including 2 merged qualifications) • 1 deleted qualification • 69 updated units of competency • 5 deleted units of competency <p><i>Part 3: Intensive Livestock (Pig and Poultry) Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 updated qualifications • 16 revised units of competency • 1 new unit of competency • 1 deleted unit of competency <p><i>Part 4: Respect for Country Job Skills Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 updated qualifications • 1 new unit of competency • 35 updated units of competency (including 2 units merged into 1) | <p>Approved the training products for endorsement</p> |
| <p>Meat IRC</p> <p>AMP Australian Meat Processing Training Package – Release 8.0 – Meat Processing General, Quality and Safety</p> | <p>The Case for Endorsement includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 updated qualifications • 101 updated units of competency • 3 deleted units of competency | <p>Approved the training products for endorsement</p> |