First meeting for VET review reference group

The reference group established to assist in the review of the role and function of Tasmania’s public VET providers met for the first time today.

The consultant appointed to undertake the review, Virginia Simmons, assembled the reference group in Hobart, saying the group would act as an important sounding board to the process.

“The reference group has been chosen from a broad range of education and training stakeholders in Tasmania,” Ms Simmons said.

“They will act as an advisory group to me, and will provide feedback and support to the process.”

Membership comprises nominees from the following organisations:

- Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- University of Tasmania
- Tasmanian Skills Institute
- Tasmanian Polytechnic
- Tasmanian Academy
- Skills Tasmania
- Australian Education Union
- Community and Public Sector Union
- United Voice
- Tasmanian Principals Association
- Tasmanian State Schools Parents and Friends

Ms Simmons said the review will investigate the current governance, funding and operational arrangements of the public providers of VET in Tasmania, including their capacity to improve retention and participation rates, respond to identified skills needs and contribute to Tasmania’s productivity.

“During the review process I will be drawing information and advice from a wide range of sources – the reference group, industry leaders, submissions, regional consultations and the national and state context.”

The reference group will meet three times before Ms Simmons provides her report to the Government by April 2012.

Regional consultations will be held around the state for individuals and groups to participate in
discussion.

Information about the Review and consultation process, including how to register for one of the regional consultations or lodge a submission, is available at www.education.tas.gov.au.

A communiqué will be provided to all stakeholders and posted on the Department of Education website after each meeting.

Further information: Tasmanian Government Communications Unit
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