MEDIA STATEMENT

Review to strengthen State’s training sector

- State’s vocational education and training sector to be independently reviewed
- Review to identify pathways towards a greater level of autonomy and innovation
- Ensuring the sustainability of regional training facilities a priority

Training and Workforce Development Minister Terry Redman today announced an independent review of the State’s vocational education and training sector.

The State Government has appointed respected Emeritus Professor Margaret Seares to undertake the review to ensure Western Australia’s trade and industry training sector remains a world leader.

The review will look at strategies and make recommendations to support the future growth of State training providers and create a plan for streamlined information flows between industry, the sector and the State Government.

Mr Redman said the State’s training providers needed a clear pathway as industry moved through some of its biggest changes in decades.

“WA’s training system is undergoing rapid change and we want a critical and detailed assessment of how it can become more innovative and autonomous while also delivering a quality product,” the Minister said.

“As part of the National Partnership on Skills Reform, the State Government has recently announced considerable policy and funding reform for the sector, including Future Skills WA and changes to VET in schools.

“WA needs a training system that is competitive and able to meet the current challenges in delivering quality training while offering students direct pathways to engaging and long lasting careers.”

The review will also focus on better understanding the challenges facing regional training providers.

Prof Seares will provide her recommendations to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development by April 30, 2014.

Fact File
- WA’s VET sector provides workers for a vast range of industries including mining, agriculture, tourism, health, aged care, nursing and engineering
- There are more than 2,530 registered training organisations teaching more than 118,000 students across WA
- Prof Margaret Seares is a former senior deputy vice-chancellor at The University of Western Australia and has previous experience in executive roles with the former WA Department for the Arts and the Australia Council
- For details on the review and the terms of reference visit http://www.dtwd.wa.gov.au

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