

## **FACT SHEET**

### ***Training and Workforce Development Bill 2013*** ***Training and Workforce Development (Transitional Provisions) Bill 2013*** ***Training and Workforce Development (Repeals and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2013***

This legislation gives effect to key elements of the Government's response to the report by Virginia Simmons AO on *The Role and Function of Tasmania's Public Sector Vocational Education and Training (VET) Providers*.

The Bills are cognate and will establish TasTAFE, extend teacher registration to TasTAFE, conclude the operation of Skills Tasmania as a statutory authority, provide for TasTAFE within the overall legislative framework, and effect the transition of the Polytechnic and Skills Institute to TasTAFE, and of Skills Tasmania into the Department of Education.

The main Bill – the Training and Workforce Development Bill – will replace the current *Vocational Education and Training Act 1994*. The new title more accurately reflects the contents and purpose of the legislation.

#### ***Training and Workforce Development Bill 2013***

The Bill covers three areas – general administration of Tasmania's training and workforce development system (policy and purchasing of training, and group training organisations), training contracts (administration of Tasmania's apprenticeship and traineeship system), and TasTAFE.

The Minister will establish priorities for the training and workforce development system on the advice of the Secretary responsible for the *Training and Workforce Development Act 2013* (the Department of Education). In developing that advice the Secretary is required to consult with and take into account the views of industry, businesses and other stakeholders. Those priorities will inform the purchase of training from both public and private registered training organisations.

Parts of the legislation dealing with Training Contracts and Disputes, Inquiries and Inspections are substantially the same as in the current *Vocational Education and Training Act 1994*, with appropriate adjustments to take into account the move of Skills Tasmania into the Department of Education. The term 'training contracts' has replaced 'training agreements' as part of harmonisation of the national training system.

TasTAFE will be established by merging the Polytechnic and Skills Institute and continuing them as TasTAFE. TasTAFE will be focussed on both the productivity/work readiness agenda and the participation/attainment agenda. It will provide education and training to employed people for the purposes of workforce

skills development. It will work with industry associations to develop models for workforce skills development and with employers in relation to the development of the skills of their employees. It will also provide education and training to individuals to enable them to acquire skills and qualifications. It will collaborate with other education providers to support people as they move through the education and training system and into the workforce.

### ***Training and Workforce Development (Transitional Provisions) Bill 2013***

This Bill will provide for:

- Transitional matters for TasTAFE including:
  - TasTAFE to be the successor in title to Polytechnic and Skills Institute
  - continuation of the Skills Institute Board and audit committee to sign off on the financial statements
  - Skills Institute Board to provide a semi-annual report to the Minister for tabling in Parliament
  - avoidance of doubt provisions in regard to Polytechnic and Skills Institute employees, students and courses, By-laws of Skills Institute, and legal matters
  - closure of Skills Institute bank accounts
- Transitional matters for Skills Tasmania and the former TTAC including:
  - continuation of the Skills Tasmania Board and audit committee to sign off on the financial statements
  - Skills Tasmania Board to provide a semi-annual report to the Minister
  - continuation of Skills Tasmania Equity Committee
  - continuation of terms of members of the Tasmanian Training Agreements Committee as initial members of the Tasmanian Training Contracts Committee
  - continuation of operational requirements for group training organisations
  - continuation of training agreements and vocational placements
  - transfer of General Manager, Skills Tasmania position to the Department of Education
  - transfer of documents, contracts and legal matters
- Transitional matters for teachers registration to enable the Teachers Registration Board to grant specialist VET registration to teachers who are already registered.

## ***Training and Workforce Development (Repeals and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2013***

The *Teachers Registration Act 2000* will be amended to create a new category of registration – specialist vocational education and training – and to extend its coverage to include TasTAFE.

Consequential amendments will be made to a number of Acts to reflect *Training and Workforce Development Bill 2013*. This includes amending references to the Tasmanian Polytechnic, Tasmanian Skills Institute, training agreements, Skills Tasmania and *Vocational Education and Training Act 1994*.

The following Acts will also be amended:

<i>Asbestos-related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011</i>	<i>Judicial Review Act 2000</i>
<i>Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Act 1990</i>	<i>State Service Act 2000</i>
<i>Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997</i>	<i>Youth Justice Act 1997</i>
<i>Residential Tenancy Act 1997</i>	<i>Employment Incentive Assistance Act 1984</i>
<i>Education Act 1994</i>	<i>Industrial Relations Act 1984</i>
<i>Education and Training (Tasmanian Academy) Act 2008</i>	<i>Long Service Leave Act 1976</i>
<i>Payroll Tax Act 2008</i>	<i>Occupational Licensing Act 2005</i>
<i>Tasmanian Qualifications Act 2003</i>	

A number of Acts and subordinate legislation will also be repealed as set out in the Bill.