

Meeting of the Jobs and Skills Councils (JSC) CEO Network Forum 4 September 2024

The JSC CEO Network Forum (the Forum) met in Brisbane on Wednesday, 4 September 2024.

JSCs are key drivers of the government's commitments to deliver a collaborative, tripartite vocational education and training (VET) system, bringing together employers, unions and governments to address skills shortages and broader workforce challenges.

The CEOs were joined by Natalie James, Secretary, Department of Employment and Workplaces Relations and JSC Chairs for a session about how to best support their organisations to deliver stronger outcomes for learners, business, industry, the labour market and the broader economy.

The Secretary facilitated an open conversation with the CEOs and Chairs, thanking them for their work to date, hearing about key opportunities and challenges, and gaining valuable insights on better balanced frameworks enabling JSCs in their vital work.

The Forum discussed connections with JSCs' programs of work and ongoing opportunities to collaborate and provide industry stewardship.

JSC-led VET Workforce Project

The Forum discussed how JSCs will work with industry stakeholders to identify and respond to VET workforce challenges faced by their industries.

JSCs will receive \$12 million in funding to specifically support skilled teachers and trainers and build a strong and capable VET workforce.

The work will involve three streams of work. Each JSC will:

- undertake industry specific VET workforce studies to develop a comprehensive understanding of industry-specific roles
- investigate industry specific VET workforce challenges and issues and identify industry-led responses
- undertake activities to support pathways and a pipeline of VET workforces and identify industry led actions.

This work will be carried out by each JSC over the next 12-18 months and will be crucial in providing a contemporary understanding of the diversity of the VET workforce across each industry sector.

Collaboration with Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA)

The CEOs heard from JSA Commissioner, Professor Barney Glover AO, who provided an update on the labour market, the recent appointment of the two JSA Deputy Commissioners (Megan Lilly and Trevor Gauld), the status of key pieces of JSA's work and an overview of JSA's strategic plan and 2024-25 work plan. He also provided an update on several capacity studies including the Early Childhood Education and Care Capacity Study (released on 3 September 2024) highlighting the strength of the partnership between JSA and JSCs.

Additionally, Prof. Glover outlined other planned engagement and consultation activities where JSCs and JSA will be collaborating on a number of projects.

The next meeting of the JSC CEO Network Forum will take place in December 2024.

Friday 27 September 2024

In attendance:

Sharon Robertson, Rhyll Gardner: Manufacturing (Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance)

Paul Walsh, Tony Wilks: Transport and Logistics (Industry Skills Australia)

Patrick Kidd, David Masters: Finance, Technology and Business (Future Skills Organisation)

Natalie Turmine, Prof. Gary Mortimer: Arts, Personal Services, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality (Service and Creative Skills Australia)

Gavin Lind, Nicole Firth: Mining and Automotive (Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance)

Emma King, Rob Bonner: Aged and Disability, Children's Education and Care, Health, Human Services, Sport and Recreation (HumanAbility)

Anthea Middleton, Greg Skyring: Energy Gas and Renewables (Powering Skills Organisation)

Brett Schimming, Paula Masters: Building, Construction, Property and Water (BuildSkills Australia)

Michael Hartman, Todd Loydell: Agribusiness, Fibre, Furnishing, Food, Animal and Environment Care (Skills Insight)

Jean Dyzel, Stuart Ellis: Public Safety and Government (Public Skills Australia)