

## Meeting of the Jobs and Skills Councils (JSC) CEO Network Forum 12 June 2025

The JSC CEO Network Forum (the Forum) met in Brisbane on Thursday 12 June 2025.

JSCs are key contributors to the government's commitment 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 key focus of this meeting was to engage in strategic discussions with key government and industry partners, and to agree to longer term performance arrangements for JSCs.

**The Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Skills and Training**, joined the CEOs for a discussion. The Minister highlighted the broad role for JSCs in contributing to conversations about shaping a more productive and inclusive labour market; the challenge in balancing a common national approach and local priorities; and the importance of tripartism in bringing all stakeholders into the conversation. He acknowledged the role the JSCs have played and will continue to play in delivering on these opportunities and challenges.

**Natalie James, Secretary, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)** joined the Forum to hear from CEOs on priorities for 2025 and how the department can continue to support their organisations to deliver stronger VET outcomes.

### Performance arrangements

The CEOs and the department agreed on the co-designed approach to performance arrangements comprising core logics; metrics; an exchange of letters between the Minister and each JSC; and existing grant requirements. The department and JSCs discussed further work required to operationalise the performance arrangements.

### Other sessions

The CEOs continued their engagement with:

- **Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA)** with Ms Megan Lilly, Deputy Commissioner, Mr Trevor Gauld, Deputy Commissioner, and Mr David Turvey PSM, Executive Director providing an update on their workplan for 2025-26 in three streams: productivity, skills and inclusive participation. JSA also provided an update on work related to tertiary harmonisation, the National Skills Taxonomy and VET workforce analysis.
- **Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)**, whose CEO Saxon Rice provided an update on ASQA's work on guidelines for Recognition of Prior Learning and recent actions by the regulator to cancel or issue notices of intent to cancel individual qualifications.

**TAFE Directors Australia (TDA)**, represented by Jenny Dodd, Mary Faraone, Chloe Read and John Tucker, discussed building on the JSCs' collaborative relationships with TAFEs and opportunities to better coordinate future activities. Trevor Schwenke, **WorldSkills Australia** CEO, gave a presentation about WorldSkills Australia. The WorldSkills Australia 2025 National Championships and Skills Show was also taking place in Brisbane on 12–14 June.

The next in-person meeting of the JSC CEO Network Forum will take place in September 2025.

**JSC CEOs in attendance:**

- **Brett Schimming**, Building, Construction, Property and Water (BuildSkills Australia), Co-Chair
- **Anthea Middleton**, Energy Gas and Renewables (Powering Skills Organisation)
- **Warren Hill** (Acting CEO), Aged and Disability, Children's Education and Care, Health, Human Services, Sport and Recreation (HumanAbility)
- **Gavin Lind**, Mining and Automotive (Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance)
- **Jean Dyzel**, Public Safety and Government (Public Skills Australia)
- **Jessica Hocking** (Acting CEO), Agribusiness, Fibre, Furnishing, Food, Animal and Environment Care (Skills Insight)
- **Natalie Turmine**, Arts, Personal Services, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality (Service and Creative Skills Australia)
- **Patrick Kidd OBE OAM**, Finance, Technology and Business (Future Skills Organisation)
- **Paul Walsh**, Transport and Logistics (Industry Skills Australia)
- **Sharon Robertson**, Manufacturing (Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance)