



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Education & Training
Inquiry into Vocational Education in Schools

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 1 August 2003

Chair: Kerry Bartlett MP
Deputy: Rod Sawford MP

Public hearings - Monday 4 August and Tuesday 5 August 2003 - WA

**Mandurah and Perth visits for
vocational education in schools inquiry**

The rapidly growing area of vocational education and training (VET) in schools is being investigated by the House of Representatives Education and Training Committee. The inquiry is examining the range, structure, resourcing and delivery of vocational education and training programs in schools, including teacher training, the impact of vocational education on other programs, vocational education in new industries, and the accessibility and effectiveness of vocational education for indigenous students.

On **Monday 4 August** the Education Committee will visit **Mandurah Senior College** to talk to students, staff, and partner institutions **Murdoch University** and **Challenger TAFE**, at the Peel Education and TAFE Campus about vocational education programs in schools. Also attending the hearing will be **Mandurah Youth Commitment** and **SWISLink** discussing the need for local co-ordination, and industry co-operation. The Committee will also visit **Austal Ships**, a major training provider.

On **Tuesday 5 August**, public hearings will continue in Perth with the **Western Australian Government** discussing the growth of VET in Schools in WA and the success of the Aboriginal School Based Traineeships. **Curtin University of Technology** highlights the need for increased teacher training to support the growth in student numbers. The **Chamber of Minerals and Energy** education programs will also be discussed along with initiatives to encourage young people into their industry.

SCHOOL VISIT and PUBLIC HEARINGS

WHEN & WHERE:

Mandurah Monday 4 August 2003
Mandurah Senior College
Carleton Place
Mandurah, WA, 9:15am to 1:10pm

Perth Tuesday 5 August 2003
Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices
Level 39, Exchange Plaza, 2 The Esplanade,
Perth, WA, 9:00am to 3:30pm

Please note: should media wish to visit the school please contact the secretariat first

"Vocational education and training in schools is growing rapidly," says House Education Committee Chair, Mr Kerry Bartlett. "We need to be sure we are maximising its potential to support young people to choose effectively from the range of pathways available to them and to successfully make the transition from school to work or further education and training.

"Vocational programs in regional areas seem to have great community support. The growing region of Peel and Mandurah has a new multi-sector education campus. How effective is this arrangement in supporting students? We also need to identify the strengths of the Western Australian system, and in particular determine what the challenges are in supporting young people in remote areas."

For media comment: Kerry Bartlett, MP, Chair, House Education Committee, tel: (02) 4751 7494
Please note if media wish to visit schools contact the secretariat first

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