



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING
ANNUAL REPORT 2006-07

*Chair: Ms Sharon Bird MP
Deputy Chair: Dr Dennis Jensen MP*

House Education Committee to meet with National Centre for Vocational Educational Research

Public Hearing & Inspection 22 July 2008

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education and Training will hold a public hearing in Adelaide with representatives from the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) on Tuesday 22 June. The hearing is part of the Committee's review of the former Department of Education, Science and Training Annual Report 2006-07.

NCVER is a not-for-profit company owned by the Federal, State and Territory ministers responsible for training, and is Australia's principal provider of vocational education and training (VET) research and statistics.

Committee Chair, Ms Sharon Bird MP, said today "The future skilling of Australia's workforce is one of a number of areas the committee is looking at as part of its annual report review, with a particular emphasis on skills requirements for emerging trades, the processes for ensuring competencies and packages are kept up-to-date, and issues regarding mature-age apprentices."

"NCVER has released a number of significant reports on VET in recent weeks, and Tuesday's hearing will provide a valuable opportunity for discussion on those reports of interest to the Committee," Ms Bird said.

Other issues the committee has identified as topics of interest for its annual report review include the education of students with special needs (including gifted students) and the decline in enrolments in the enabling sciences at Australian universities.

Following Tuesday's public hearing, the Committee will conduct a site visit to University Senior College in Adelaide.

Public Hearing:

Date/Time: Tuesday, 22 July 2008, commencing at 9.00am
Witnesses: National Centre for Vocational Education Research
Venue: The Kingston Room, Parliament of South Australia, Adelaide.

Inspection:

Date/Time: Tuesday, 22 July 2008, approximately 11.30am
Venue: University Senior College, North Terrace, University of Adelaide.

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Sharon Bird on (02) 6277 4717 (Parliament House) or (02) 4228 5899 (Electorate Office).

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary on (02) 6277 4578, email edt.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/edt/>