

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000417

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing.

National Framework for Vocational Education

Question

What is being done to review and modernise the current national framework for vocational education? (p. 15 NERA)

- What is the Department's role in this?
- What are the next steps in implementation?

Answer

On 11 April 2014, Education Ministers agreed to establish a working group under the then Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC) to update the *New framework for vocational education in schools 2001* to deliver a national framework that meets the contemporary needs of schools, training providers, industry and employers. The Schools Vocational Learning and Training (SVLT) Working Group was established and developed *Preparing Secondary Students for Work - A framework for vocational learning and VET delivered to Secondary Students*. The framework was endorsed by Education Council on 12 December 2014.

To support the framework, the working group developed a suite of resources to assist schools to deliver VET to secondary students. The framework and resources are available on the Preparing Secondary Students for Work website at www.pssf.w.gov.au/.

The Department of Education and Training chaired the SVLT Working Group on behalf of the Australian Government and provided secretariat support.

The department will continue to raise the profile of VET delivered to secondary students by developing good practice case studies that demonstrate the values of the framework. The case studies will highlight the importance of collaboration between schools, training providers and employers in providing students with the skills they need for successful post-school outcomes.

The department will also develop strategies to improve access to qualified teachers and trainers to deliver VET to secondary students, as well as a National Career Education Strategy to improve career education in schools.

To further support the framework, the department oversees the Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) pilot program which will establish 14 pilot sites in schools across Australia to deliver VET courses that will support the Government's goal to build Australia's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) capability. The P-TECH pilot involves the establishment of long-term partnerships between industry, schools and tertiary education providers that enable businesses to play an active role in supporting young people to develop the skills they need for the jobs of the future.