

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2  
**Output Group:** 2.2 – New Apprenticeships

#### DEST Question No. E826\_05

Senator Carr tabled the following questions on 16 February.

#### Questions:

1. Please provide detailed information about the proposed Institute for Trade Skills Excellence including:
  - a) Timetable and process for its establishment;
  - b) Legislation required, or amendments to existing legislation;
  - c) Membership and criteria for membership;
  - d) How members will be appointed;
  - e) Role and responsibilities; and
  - f) Funding.
  
2. Where the role and / or power of the Institute will usurp or replace an existing role or arrangements, please specify that existing role or arrangement.

#### Answer:

##### *Detailed information about the proposed Institute for Trade Skills Excellence*

1.
  - a) It is expected that the Institute will be established in the second half of 2005. The Minister is currently considering the process that the Government wishes to adopt in establishing the Institute.
  - b) It is anticipated that no legislation, or amendments to existing legislation, will be required to establish the Institute.
  - c) The Government announced during the 2004 election campaign that the shareholders of the Institute would be the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Australian Industry Group, the Business Council of Australia and the National Farmers' Federation. The process for appointing members of the Institute will be a matter for the Minister to consider in approving arrangements for the establishment of the Institute.
  - d) See response to question 1(c).
  - e) The following roles and responsibilities of the Institute were announced by the Government during the 2004 election. The Institute for Trade Skill Excellence will:
    - provide industry endorsement of the trade qualifications provided by private and public registered training organisations, and designate training providers with "preferred provider" status;
    - develop further strategies to improve the profile of the trades;
    - allocate teaching excellence awards of \$10,000 in twenty trades each year;
    - organise an annual awards event to showcase excellence in trade teaching; and
    - design and distribute certificates to New Apprentices completing a qualification with a preferred provider.

- f) Funding of \$18.3 million over three years to support the establishment of the Institute was announced by the Government during the 2004 election.
2. The Institute not will usurp or replace an existing role or arrangements within the national training system.