

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

- Outcome:** 1, 2 & 3
- Output Group:** 1.3 – Assistance for quality teaching and learning  
2.1 – Funding for vocational education and training  
2.2 – New Apprenticeships  
2.3 – Assistance for skills and career development  
2.4 – Funding for higher education  
3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships  
3.4 – National leadership in engaging people in science and technology

#### DEST Question No. E290\_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### Question:

What forums are in place for DEST and DIMIA to develop strategies for addressing skills shortages?

Who chairs these forums?

#### Answer:

*Forums for developing strategies for addressing skills shortages*

DIMIA chairs an Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) on migration with skills needs forming part of the agenda. DEST is a member of the IDC as well as other Commonwealth departments.

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Other forums which involve DEST, DIMIA and other agencies include:

- Migration Occupations in Demand List (MODL) Working Group – DEWR chairs
- Council of Australian Governments which has established a Commonwealth State Working Group. Its purpose is to address the barriers across the VET system to achieve a national approach to apprenticeships, vocational education and training, and skills recognition. This Working Group is chaired by PM&C and comprises representatives from State and Territory governments.
- Interdepartmental Working Group – Science Skills Audit – DEST chairs