

RESPONSES FROM THE HUNTER TRAINERS AND ASSESSORS NETWORK – MEETING 11 MARCH 2003

REVIEW OF THE TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT TRAINING PACKAGE FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS

QUALIFICATIONS STRUCTURE

- 1 *Should the Certificate IV program be included with the core modules of the Diploma and Advanced Diploma qualifications or be a pre-requisite qualification?*

General agreement that the qualifications should be discrete rather than incorporated and that each qualification should be a prerequisite for the next level qualification. This would avoid having a reduced qualification (eg Certificate IV 12 reduced to 9 modules in the Diploma) when the qualification is incorporated. The incorporated model also creates problems for determining fee structures

Agreement that this requirement should apply to both streams.

- 2 *Should there be a Certificate III (AQF Level 3) module in a trainer/assessor qualification?*

General agreement that there needs to be a module offering basic presentation skills for industry-based trainers who would not receive a Certificate but could receive a Statement of Attainment – as is the case now for Train Small Groups (eg generally accepted as the requirement for ACE trainers who are not assessing).

Whether this module should be lowered to an AQF Level 3 was questioned? The group was divided on this issue, particularly as AQF Level 3 requires supervision and the person training may not be supervised by an experienced trainer/assessor.

ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

- 1 *Should trainers and assessors delivering this package have qualifications and experience at the same level or higher?*

General agreement that qualifications at the same level or higher would be satisfactory but the accompanying industry experience is an extremely important issue for this package.

- 2 *What kind of experience should they have (length of experience, breadth of experience, education industry experience or other industry experience?)*

To train and assess in the T&A package, the experience must be T&A or equivalent education industry experience – not other (eg Hospitality) industry experience and this must be more clearly defined in the Assessment Guidelines.

A mix of industry experience plus VET (education) experience could be considered.

COMPETENCIES/CONTENT

1 How important is evaluation and should there be an additional field?

The absence of an Evaluation/Review field was clearly seen as a major omission from the new package as it is a distinct and discreet educational function.

Whilst the competencies do make provision for integrated evaluation and review, little attention has been paid to the skills of developing evaluation instruments at each level and the higher level research skills that would be required as a part of the Diploma and Advanced Diploma programs.

2 Will 3 electives in the Certificate IV in Support Services be adequate to enable a staff member to train and assess?

Once again, this was seen as a discrepancy with the package as a whole and related to the discussion surrounding Qualifications Structure. What is the tier of trainers and assessors who have 1, 3, 7, 9 or 12 modules from the Certificate IV qualification.? What level of training and assessing do they do. Whilst this could be seen as an RTO decision, there is a real need for a nationally consistent guideline on this issue.