



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 6

MEDIA RELEASE

ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, OUTCOMES: Strengthening VET in NSW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25 June 2015

An Upper House committee will conduct an inquiry into vocational education and training (VET) in New South Wales.

The committee Chair, the Hon Paul Green MLC, said “VET provides opportunities for a broad range of people in the community, including trades men and women, parents of young children and school leavers, to develop hands-on skills into a successful career. Hearing from stakeholders will assist us to contribute to an informed debate about the future of VET in New South Wales”.

Mr Green commented “This inquiry will be wide-ranging and cover a number of important issues facing the VET system in this state”. The issues to be considered include:

- the factors influencing student choice about embarking on VET, including barriers to participation
- the role played by public and private VET providers, including in the delivery of services to regional and rural communities
- factors affecting the costs of delivering affordable and accessible training, including the impact of the co-contribution funding model
- the level of industry participation in the VET sector.

In addition, the inquiry will examine issues arising from recent Smart and Skilled reforms to the VET system. Mr Green noted, “We will also be looking at the effects of a competitive training market on student access to VET, including for the most vulnerable in our community, such as people suffering a disability, severe disadvantage or isolation.”

The committee invites all interested stakeholders, organisations and individuals to make a written submission to the inquiry. Submissions are due by 14 August 2015, and public hearings will take place from September 2015.

For more information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference and information about making a submission, please visit: https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc6?open&refnavid=LC5_2.

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For further information please contact committee Chair, the Hon Paul Green MLC, on 9230 3483