

Recommendation	Area responsible	Minister's response
RECOMMENDATION 1 That the State Training Board and the Department of Training and Workforce Development work with the Minister for Training and Workforce Development to provide clarity around the design of the State's VET system and the Government's expectations of that system over the next five years, including responsibilities for the delivery and funding of training in areas of thin and/or equity markets.	PPI	I support the recommendation for greater clarity around the Government's expectations of the State's VET system over the next five years. The design and Government's expectations for the Western Australian VET sector will need to consider the outcomes of national training reforms as well as proposed changes to Commonwealth welfare policies.
RECOMMENDATION 2 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development identify and establish partnerships with other State agencies that have a potential role in the equity training area.	PPI	I support the recommendation. The Department will continue to consult and work with State Government agencies that have an interest in the equity training area. The Department is committed to increasing the participation of equity groups in training and the workforce.
RECOMMENDATION 3 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development monitor the effectiveness of the current concession scheme for low SES students and adjust this where appropriate.	PPI	I support the recommendation for greater monitoring of the student concession scheme. The Department is monitoring enrolments relating to concessions and low SES students as part of the implementation of Future Skills WA.
RECOMMENDATION 4 That to ensure a student-focused VET sector, the Department of Training and Workforce Development in conjunction with the regulators, ensure that providers' credentials and quality systems are taken into account during contracting, accrediting and registering Registered Training Organisations.	SRM	I support this recommendation and have requested the Department continue to ensure the effective exchange of information with the regulators on the performance of registered RTOs in receipt of public funding. I have also asked the Department to strengthen requirements to ensure RTOs meet contractual obligations and are of the highest quality.
RECOMMENDATION 5 That the Western Australian Government, through the Minister for Training and Workforce Development, authorises development of a communications strategy that promotes the value of the State's VET sector to the broader communities that the sector serves.	PPI	I support the recommendation in principle, however, this will need to be considered in the context of a tight fiscal environment including government advertising and marketing expenditure.
RECOMMENDATION 6 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development review the reporting requirements of State Training Providers, and the role of the Department of Training and Workforce Development in managing the Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 and the Ministerial Regulations, with a view to some of the responsibilities and accountabilities being devolved to the Governing Councils.	SRM	I support this recommendation. I have requested the Department to review the State Training Provider reporting requirements and have agreed to the opportunity for increased State Training Provider delegations in approving commercial contracts (see Recommendation 28).
RECOMMENDATION 7 That the DTWD develop a new reporting framework that would comprise a set of factors such as: - quality of governance (as a measure of the following indicators); - track record of financial performance (through financial statements); - academic quality and student outcomes; - Institute profile achievement; - efficiency of operations (using the Student Contact Hours measure); - other specific whole-of-government targets (through required reports to central agencies); and - other targets that might be specific to the particular region in which the State Training Provider operates. These could be used both for reporting purposes and as a measure of a State Training Provider's level of maturity and ability to manage under a 'light touch' approach.	SRM	I support the broad intent of this recommendation that will result in a new reporting framework. I have asked the Department to, in consultation with State Training Providers, undertake a thorough review of the State Training Provider funding model, the associated Delivery Performance Agreements, and the monitoring and reporting activities.
RECOMMENDATION 8 That the Western Australian Government, through the Minister for Training and Workforce Development, provides a clear statement on the State's position regarding the autonomy of the State Training Providers and the consequent accountabilities and responsibilities of their Governing Councils.	SRM	I support this recommendation and have recently written to the Governing Councils and Managing Directors to more clearly explain the role and autonomy of State Training Providers. I have also requested the Department, in consultation with the State Training Providers, to re-write the Governing Council Handbook and guidelines for commercial activities, which may uncover additional needs for clarification and information for the Governing Councils.
RECOMMENDATION 9 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development should meet with the Chairs of the Governing Councils only, twice yearly, as a group.	ODG	I support this recommendation and will schedule the meetings as recommended, commencing in 2015.

RECOMMENDATION 10 That the current practice of selection for Governing Council membership be enhanced by a role for Council nomination committees which would make recommendations to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development based upon a skills matrix, developed to reflect the needs of the particular State Training Provider.	SRM	I support this recommendation and welcome the input of the Governing Councils in future processes to recruit new members. I have asked the Department to work with the Governing Councils to develop appropriate guidelines for this activity.
RECOMMENDATION 11 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development raise with the Public Sector Commission the complete devolution of responsibility for the performance reviews of the Managing Directors of the State Training Providers to the Chairs of the Governing Councils.	SRM	I cannot support this recommendation as I have been advised the CEO performance agreement process is a requirement under the Public Sector Management Act and cannot be fully devolved to the Governing Councils. The Department will reduce its involvement in facilitating the process for Managing Director 2015 Performance Agreements, with the Public Sector Commission taking the lead.
RECOMMENDATION 12 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development in conjunction with the State Training Providers consider ways of enhancing management expertise and knowledge exchange across the VET sector.	Corporate	I support the recommendation and encourage the Department and State Training Providers to second staff where appropriate to enhance the exchange of knowledge and expertise.
RECOMMENDATION 13 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development should require that ensuring the quality of training remain the top priority for the Department of Education Services in its support of the function of the Training Accreditation Council.	PPI (with DES)	I support this recommendation in principle but note that this means no change to the existing high priority given to the work of the Training Accreditation Council.
RECOMMENDATION 14 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development continue to monitor the viability, and work with the Minister for Training and Workforce Development and Department of Treasury to ensure the effective functionality, of the State training network.	SRM	I support this recommendation and I have requested the Department continues to monitor the ongoing viability of State Training Providers, working closely with the sector, to ensure funding supports costs associated with the delivery of VET including support for thin markets. The Department will also work directly with State Training Providers that have critical financial viability concerns.
RECOMMENDATION 15 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development and the Department of Treasury work together to obtain the most efficient and effective capital works management process for the State Training Providers.	SRM	I support this recommendation and have asked the Department to work with the Department of Treasury to establish a working group with State Training Providers to explore current arrangements and future needs.
RECOMMENDATION 16 That, as part of its role of monitoring the sector, the Department of Training and Workforce Development should support innovative approaches to gaining greater efficiencies in corporate services management by the State Training Providers, and measure the outcomes at the end of two years.	Corporate	I support the recommendation and have requested that the Department, in consultation with the State Training Providers, conduct a review of the current Shared Services model to identify any potential efficiencies.
RECOMMENDATION 17 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development convenes discussions with the Department of Commerce to seek a way within the current industrial framework for Government agencies that would provide more flexible and individualised Agreements for each State Training Provider.	Corporate	As this matter relates to the Department of Commerce, this recommendation will be referred accordingly.
RECOMMENDATION 18 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development, after consultation with the Department of Treasury, work with the Managing Directors of the State Training Providers to revise and update the Delivery and Performance Agreement to reflect a longer planning cycle, and to incorporate revised reporting components.	SRM	I support this recommendation in part and note that the Department has committed to undertaking a first principles review of Delivery and Performance Agreements commencing in 2015. I am advised consideration will be given to a longer planning cycle and associated delivery targets and reporting requirements. I note, however, that this matter rests with the Department of Treasury.
RECOMMENDATION 19 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development be permitted to manage the salary caps for State Training Providers at a VET sector level, and that commercial activity undertaken on a full cost recovery basis not be considered as part of the caps.	Corporate	I support the recommendation and request that the Department work with Department of Treasury to determine a process to manage the salary caps for State Training Providers including consideration of the outcomes at a Public VET sector level.
RECOMMENDATION 20 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development negotiate a specific provision for marketing of courses to students for State Training Providers that would align this marketing effort with that of the private sector providers.	SRM	I support this recommendation and have requested the Department to assist me in seeking greater autonomy for the State Training Providers' marketing of training courses on offer.
RECOMMENDATION 21 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development and the State Training Board develop a policy position on the future criteria to underpin the development of areas of specialisation.	PPI	I support the development of areas of specialisation. This was an election commitment of the Liberal Party with a budget of \$4 million over 4 years, but is currently unfunded.

RECOMMENDATION 22 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development provide a policy on the provision and funding of student support, for dissemination to the broader VET sector.	PPI and SRM	I have called on the Department to require all state and private training providers to use their existing resources to better focus their practices on the individual needs of students.
RECOMMENDATION 23 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development liaise with the Departments of Education and Education Services, and the Training Accreditation Council, to provide clarity to the sector as regards the requirements and costs of implementation of the new WACE model.	PPI	I support this recommendation. The Department will continue to liaise with all relevant State Government departments to provide clarity to the sector about the implications for VET provision in the new WACE, including costs of implementation
RECOMMENDATION 24 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development and the Department of Education Services convene a forum with the Western Australian Vice Chancellors and the representatives from the Managing Directors of the State Training Providers, to begin development of a State-wide pathways and articulation framework; and that the Department of Training and Workforce Development provide to the forum details of proposed and existing pathways projects, as a background for deliberations.	PPI (with DES)	I support the development of a statewide pathways and articulation framework. I have requested that the Department liaise with the Department of Education Services to progress this work.
RECOMMENDATION 25 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development work with the Federal Government to ensure that My Skills is improved and provides adequate information for consumers in an appropriate format.	PPI	I support this recommendation. The Department will continue to collaborate with the Commonwealth Government on improving the My Skills website to better inform consumers.
RECOMMENDATION 26 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development reconvene the governance group for Education and Training International at which issues of concern, such as marketing and transparency of costs can be discussed and potentially resolved.	SD	I support the recommendation. I understand that the governance group has already been reconvened.
RECOMMENDATION 27 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development and the governance group keep a watching brief on international developments and ensure that Western Australian providers are fully engaged in international servicing of VET markets.	SD	I support the recommendation. I understand that the governance group has already been established which will ensure that Western Australian State Training Providers are fully engaged in the international servicing of VET markets.
RECOMMENDATION 28 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development direct the Department of Training and Workforce Development to shift its focus away from management oversight of issues that can effectively be devolved to the State Training Providers and towards a more strategic focus on the ongoing design, planning, policy formation, facilitation, and monitoring of the entire Western Australian VET system.	SRM	I broadly support this recommendation and agree there are some areas that can be devolved to the State Training Providers, such as oversight of the use of Professional Development funding. I am also prepared to consider increased delegation limits for the approval of commercial activities, subject to the State Training Provider's previous performance and effective risk management strategies. I still require State Training Providers to submit their Strategic Plans and Annual Business Plans for my approval, as this is an important safeguard to ensuring coherence across the training sector.
RECOMMENDATION 29 That the next review of the Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 include any changes required in order that the recommendations of this review might be implemented.	PPI	I support this recommendation. The review of the VET Act is currently in progress. The Department will consider my endorsed actions arising from this review and any associated impacts on the legislation as part of the review process.
RECOMMENDATION 30 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development raise with the Minister for Regional Development the potential for Royalties for Regions to fund a five-year project under the heading 'VET Regional Partnerships Program' for regional State Training Providers that are looking to embark on new, innovative and long-term partnerships for the benefit of their institutions and their communities.	SRM	I support this recommendation insofar as I am prepared to raise this matter with the Minister for Regional Development following receipt from the Regional Managing Directors of a detailed business case for my consideration.
RECOMMENDATION 31 That the Department of Training and Workforce Development work with State Training Providers to establish a policy by which private Registered Training Organisations or other parties might deliver training from State-owned campuses. This should include reference to the use of information and communications technologies.	SRM	I support this recommendation, and have requested the Department to establish a working group with State Training Providers to consider third party access by private RTOs. Findings will be considered by Governing Councils and incorporated into the Strategic Infrastructure planning process for State Training Providers.
RECOMMENDATION 32 That the Minister for Training and Workforce Development determine the extent to which the State Training Board should be independent of the Department of Training and Workforce Development, and advise the Chair of the Board and the Director-General of the Department of Training and Workforce Development accordingly.	PPI	I support the current level of independence of the State Training Board. The State Government does not intend to establish a fully independent State Training Board.

RECOMMENDATION 33 That in order for the State Training Board to be able to fulfil its mandate, the Minister for Training and Workforce Development direct the Department of Training and Workforce Development to pass through the Board's funding without being subject to Departmental efficiency reviews or resource distribution allocations.	PPI	The Department will continue to support and resource the State Training Board to carry out its functions.
RECOMMENDATION 34 That there be a quarterly meeting convened between the Chair of the State Training Board and the Chairs of the Industry Training Councils to review the effectiveness of the flow of advice to and from industry.	PPI	I support this recommendation. The State Training Board is moving to establish the Industry Consultative Committee which includes the Chair of the State Training Board and Chairs of the Industry Training Councils with meetings scheduled twice per year or as needed.
RECOMMENDATION 35 That there be an annual strategic discussion between each Industry Training Council (ITC), the State Training Board, and the Department of Training and Workforce Development, at which the top few priorities for Government and the top few priorities for each ITC are identified in each of the ITC service agreements and given greatest weight in the reporting of outcomes. The Department of Training and Workforce Development should then provide the State Training Board with an annual report on the outcomes of the ITC service agreements.	PPI	I support this recommendation. Identification of the top few priorities will be included in a new Service Agreement framework which will be developed by the Department in consultation with the State Training Board and Industry Training Councils.
RECOMMENDATION 36 That service agreements with each Industry Training Council should include an addendum that provides a plan for systematic engagement with the regions and the separate Regional Workforce Development Alliances or similar groups.	PPI	I support this recommendation. Regional engagement strategies will be included in a new Service Agreement framework which will be developed by the Department in consultation with the State Training Board and Industry Training Councils.
RECOMMENDATION 37 That the State Training Board's remit be broadened to include the workforce development implications resulting from the increasing convergence between the VET and higher education sectors.	PPI	The remit of the State Training Board and Industry Training Councils already includes the workforce development implications resulting from the increasing convergence between the VET and higher education sectors including through the development of the State Priority Occupation List.
RECOMMENDATION 38 That the State Training Board works with the Industry Training Councils to resolve any anomalies in industry groupings that could reasonably be adjusted. The outcomes of these discussions should include consideration of the appropriateness of the names and memberships of the Councils.	PPI	I support this recommendation. The State Training Board has agreed to undertake a review of the Industry Training Councils' coverage to resolve where possible any anomalies with industry groupings/occupations.
RECOMMENDATION 39 That the methodology for constructing the State Priority Occupation List be reviewed by the State Training Board and the Department of Training and Workforce Development so as to deal with issues raised about currency and alignment with regional workforce development plans.	PPI	I do not support this recommendation. The State Priority Occupation List (SPOL) is fit for purpose in relation to identifying occupational priorities at a State level. The occupational analysis in regional workforce development plans inform annual funding allocations by the Department including the allocations to regional State Training Providers on training priorities. The Department will work with stakeholders to clarify the processes associated with the SPOL and regional workforce development plans.
RECOMMENDATION 40 That the resourcing of the Training Accreditation Council be reviewed to ensure that it can appropriately provide quality assurance for training provision in Western Australia and that, in particular, it is able to oversee effectively the regulatory compliance of participants in the VET in Schools program from 2015.	PPI (with DES)	I support this recommendation which is currently being addressed through the alignment of Training Accreditation Council (TAC) fees to those of the national VET regulator. These resources will support the TAC to focus on the issues identified in the report.