

# Ministerial Advisory Board meeting – Wednesday 19 February 2025

Meeting communique

The sixth meeting of the Ministerial Advisory Board was held on Wednesday 19 February 2025 in Melbourne.

The Advisory Board:

* welcomed newly appointed members David Henry as an Employee Representative and Dr Caroline Smith as an Employer Representative.
* noted the update provided from the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners of Jobs and Skills Australia on current strategic activities.
* discussed the efficacy of referring a number of upcoming activities to the Advisory Board’s Education and Training Reference Group (Reference Group) for advice and feedback.
* requested the Deputy Chairs of the Advisory Board and Co-Chairs of the Reference Group to review the membership and Terms of Reference of the Reference Group and provide recommendations of any changes that may be required.
* discussed the findings and actions arising from the fourth meeting of the Education and Training Reference Group, held on Friday 7 February 2025.
* considered matters related to Jobs and Skills Australia’s work to strengthen the VET sector through the VET Workforce Blueprint Opportunity 1 - “Building a better understanding of the VET workforce”. The role of governance within the project was discussed, with Reference Group Co-Chairs to identify relevant members to form a working group and ensuring tripartite arrangements maintained.
* provided feedback on JSA’s proposed approach for delivering JSA’s final report on the *Regional, Rural and Remote Jobs and Skills Roadmap*. The Advisory Board looks forward to supporting JSA in delivering a report that incorporates insights from stakeholders, analyses the regional jobs and skills system and provides an enduring vision and framework for monitoring and analysis of the system over the medium to long-term.
* discussed and provided feedback on JSA’s proposed strategy for developing the 2025 assessment of occupation shortage drivers, focusing on potential proposed enhancements to the methodology.
* discussed the Productivity Commission’s 2025 inquiries in each of the areas under the Government’s five pillar productivity growth agenda and provided views on how to engage with these inquiries to maximise JSA’s impact.
* provided comment for inclusion into the Draft JSA Performance Framework, with particular reference to inclusions for the proposed stakeholder engagement survey.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 7 April 2025 in Melbourne.

**Attendees:** Cath Bowtell (Chair); Liam O’Brien (Deputy Chair); Bran Black (Deputy Chair); Annie Butler; Correna Haythorpe; David Henry; Luke Achterstraat; Caroline Smith; Jodie Trembath; Jack Beetson; Rae Cooper; El Gibbs; Barney Glover (JSA); Hon Andrew Giles MP (part meeting).

**Apologies:** Lill Healy (proxy Jackie Ingram); Nyadol Nyuon; Natalie James (proxy Anna Faithful).

**Presenters:** David Turvey (JSA); Megan Lilly (JSA); Trevor Gauld (JSA); Cliff Bingham (JSA); Maria Shanahan (JSA); Elizabeth Knight (JSA); Peter Lake (JSA).