

DIVISION 25: TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT —

[Supplementary Information No B12.]

Question: Mr P.J. Rundle asked how many projects came about as a direct outcome of the WA skills summit held on 30 July 2021.

Answer: The McGowan Government's strategic investment in the training sector delivered the highest VET course enrolments on record. There were more than 150,000 course enrolments in 2021, with student and course enrolments up 21 per cent from 2020. There was a record 10,000 apprenticeships and traineeships registered in first quarter of 2022. A range of initiatives have been put in place since the Perth Skills Summit. These include:

- Adult Apprenticeship employer incentive for businesses who employ an adult apprentice (21+) years with an incentive of up to \$26,800. 200 places on the program are fully subscribed;
- Extension to the successful Apprenticeship and Traineeship Re-engagement Incentive to 30 June 2022, supported by the register for out-of-contract apprentices and trainees to help them find a new employer;
- Expansion of the State Nominated Migration Program through the addition of occupations to the Western Australian Skilled Migration Occupation List in high demand industries to attract and retain skilled migrants to fill jobs in demand in Western Australia, and requesting an additional 5,000 places on the program from the Commonwealth Government;
- Further expansion of the State Nominated Migration Program through the addition of occupations to the Graduate Occupation List to attract more international students Western Australia to provide a broader migration pathway;
- Development of campaigns to attract skilled workers to Western Australia and increase participation for under-represented groups in Western Australia;
- a new partnership between Tourism WA and training council, FutureNow to promote tourism and hospitality careers to school students;
- Commencing a partnership with Waalitj Foundation to help Aboriginal youth overcome barriers to employment;
- Hosting ten Regional Skills Summits around the State;
- Creation of 10 Regional Action Plans outlining practical actions to support building a local workforce for local jobs;
- Enhanced support for jobseekers to help disadvantaged learner drivers obtain a driver's licence – which can be a significant barrier to employment;
- New wage subsidy to create 300 new jobs for apprentices and trainees with Group Training Organisations in Western Australia in the building and construction sector;
- Civil Construction Pilot Program to increase the number and capability of new and existing workers in the industry through an employer wage subsidy for junior apprentices and an increased employer grant;
- targeted advertising campaigns to attract interstate, overseas and New Zealand skilled workers and increase participation of under-represented groups in WA (Department of the Premier and Cabinet);
- addition of 30 courses to the *Lower fees, local skills* initiative for priority industries and expanded the McGowan Government's low fee settings to the end of the 2026 training year;
- reducing fees for existing worker traineeships in industries with a critical need to upskill workers including childcare, aged and disability care and civil construction supervision; and
- pre-employment Job Ready programs in bricklaying, civil construction, ageing and disability, heavy vehicle driver operations, drilling, and hospitality.