

## Communique

Meeting No: 2020.01

10 June 2020

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met via videoconference on 10 June 2020. Present at the meeting were IRC members, guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

### **Pharmaceutical BioProcessing Project**

This IRC notes that because of the difficulty in engaging this industry in consultations for developing bioprocessing units and the perception by industry that Training Package components in this field are not required, the original expectation of this project will be revised down to modifying nine existing units to incorporate bioprocessing skills. These will progress to the validation stage in July 2020.

### **Covid-19 Submissions to AISC Sub-Committee**

A submission to the AISC Emergency Response Sub-Committee was prepared by Skills Impact and Paul MacLeman to describe the potential for skills development in the pharmaceutical manufacturing field to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Promotion of VET within this industry**

The lack of usage of pharmaceutical manufacturing qualifications within the industry remains a concern to this committee. Skills Impact will continue to engage in conversations with the Department of Education, Skills and Employment about these concerns.

### **Future of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry Reference Committee.**

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing IRC will meet at least once more to finalise the current development project and to consider the future of this committee.

### **Modifications to existing units of competency**

A suggestion from an RTO to modify two units of competency (FBPPHM3002 and FBPPHM3001) to allow them to apply to a wider range of contexts and to align more closely with the AQF level are to be reviewed and further consultation will be undertaken.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting of this committee will be held in September 2020.