

Communique

The Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC) held a meeting on Wednesday 16 December 2020, via Zoom conferencing.

This meeting considered the draft AHC 2021 Annual Update, projects and Proposed Schedule of Work for 2021, project updates and VET streamlining and prioritisation.

Draft Annual Update / Skills Forecast 2021

The IRC discussed and considered the draft Annual Update / Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work for 2021-22.

The IRC approved the following cases for change:

- (Year 3) unit sector approach for:
 - Aboriginal Site Works (AHCASW)
 - Indigenous Land Management AHCILM)
 - Community and Common
 - Community Coordination and Facilitation AHCCCF; Common AHCCMN; Work Health & Safety AHCWHS; Work AHCWRK
 - Composting & Organic
 - Composting AHCCOM; Organic Production AHCORG
 - Permaculture AHCPER

- Small Scale Intensive Food Growing: The IRC recognised the increasing uptake in smaller and urban food growing in recent years and its many community benefits and its importance to food security in remote indigenous communities. There was discussion around lack of defining job roles and titles in the sector which is necessary when linking to employment and enrolment information. Additional work will be considered on the case for change and presented to the next meeting.

- Therapeutic Horticulture (resubmission): The IRC recognised that the intent of the original case for change was about designing an upskilling pathway for existing health or horticulture workers, most likely suitable for a Cert IV level supervisor that would train others on the job. IRC members with experience in or associated with Therapeutic Horticulture understand its connection to permaculture and horticulture and its importance and benefits to broader industry groups, such as disability and aged care, and this could not be understated. The IRC agreed the need to revisit the original submission and, where appropriate, rework it to reflect updated information. Additional time was granted for this work if needed.

AHLCLM Projects

The IRC were provided with project briefs, with each of the IRC nominees providing a verbal insight and update.

All three projects are on track:

[Landscaping, Construction & Design](#)

Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management Industry Reference Committee

[Parks & Gardens](#)

[Skills for Land Rehabilitation \(Mined Land\)](#)

VET Streamlining and Prioritisation

The IRC received an update on the no-low enrolments list and confirmation from the Department. Responses are required by mid-January 2021.

There was discussion around the newly endorsed Training Package Development and Endorsement Policy and the process to reinstate deleted units, noting there is an expectation more evidence of current and/or future enrolments that will be required when considering all future activities.

IRC Workforce Planning Toolkit

A report was provided and considered by the IRC. It was noted that the "jobs family" approach was based on ANZSCO Codes which may hinder the process in appropriately identifying clusters of qualifications and units within AHC.

General Business

The Chair extended thanks to all members for their work through 2020 and further thanks extended to the work of Skills Impact throughout the busy year.

Skills Impact thanked all members for their continued contributions throughout 2020, acknowledging the additional workload added to their voluntary roles, in already difficult circumstances as well as the cooperation of the ITABs.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management IRC will be confirmed in 2021.