

## Communique

Meeting No: 2021.02  
28 July 2021

The Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC) held their second meeting for 2021 on Thursday 4 March via Zoom conferencing.

This meeting considered the second draft of the AHC Annual Update, Proposed Schedule of Work for 2021, project updates and the VET Prioritisation Framework.

### Draft AHC Case for Endorsement

The IRC discussed and considered each of the following projects included in the AHC Case for Endorsement V7:

#### [Landscaping, Construction & Design](#)

Summary of Key Changes:

- Five national qualifications and two state accredited qualifications were considered, resulting in six draft qualifications:
  - The *Certificate II in Landscaping* was updated to add six building and construction units, two manufacturing and engineering units, one water unit and one transport and logistic unit to the electives list. Two elective units were removed.
  - The *Certificate III in Landscape Construction* was updated to include synthetic turf and residential irrigation units as electives, as well as two class 10 building units.
  - The *Certificate IV in Landscape* was renamed *Certificate IV Landscape Construction*, in part to signpost a clear career pathway for *Certificate III Landscape Construction* graduates.
  - The *Certificate IV of Landscape Design* was redesigned to include six design units that were developed to meet national industry skills standards for landscape design, technical landscape drawing and using CAD software. Five of these units were based on existing units within a state-accredited course, which has high enrolments and is supported by industry.
  - The *Diploma of Landscape Project Management* was redesigned and renamed *Diploma of Landscape Construction Management* to strengthen the qualification and support clear career pathway for graduates
  - The *Diploma of Landscape Design* was updated to include a unit for CAD software and updates made to core and electives lists.
- Twenty four units have been reviewed.
- Ten units have been developed to meet industry skill needs. This includes: six design units, two units for landscaping construction, one unit for implementing an outdoor tiling project and one unit to address the need for landscaping design skills standards for therapeutic horticulture.
- One new skill set, *AHCSS00128 Design Brief for Therapeutic Horticulture Garden* was developed to recognise the evolving changes and applications used in the landscaping industry and to support landscape design professionals. This is not for endorsement.
- Four skill sets are proposed for deletion due to low enrolments.

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## Parks & Gardens

Summary key changes:

- Revision of the Certificates II and III in Parks and Gardens to support strong pathways into the industry.
- Two qualifications (Certificate IV and Diploma) to be deleted, as higher-level skills and knowledge can be attained through the horticulture qualifications, which offer learners a greater choice of training providers. Industry to participate in the review of the horticulture qualifications.
- Revision of 19 units to reflect current work practices and job roles and include references to waste disposal options such as recycling where applicable.
- One unit of competency to be deleted.

The IRC considered the briefing paper regarding potential change of components to the Certificate III in Parks and Gardens, including machinery types suitable at AQF levels 2 and 3. The IRC confirmed that no change to the core components as presented in the draft CfE.

## Skills for Land Rehabilitation (Mined Land)

Summary key changes:

- A streaming option added to the *Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management* to specialise in skills for the 'Rehabilitation of Mined Land', with additional units added to the General Elective bank of units in the qualification to support this specialisation, including work health and safety units
- Development of four skill sets (not for endorsing)
  - Administrator in Mined Land Rehabilitation Skill Set
  - Mined Land Rehabilitation Field Worker Skill Set
  - Mined Land Rehabilitation Machine Operator Skill Set
  - Mined Land Rehabilitation Project Coordinator Skill Set

Development work utilised existing units only and no changes were made to these units.

## **VET Reform**

The IRC considered a briefing paper and additional information on the current VET program, that will continue to operate in its current form until December 2022.

The IRC supports the involvement of industry in the reform change as a key element in the new system and welcome any help from Skills Impact to set up a successful future.

## **AISC Prioritisation Framework**

The IRC considered the Prioritisation Framework in the context of AHC training package skill standards already identified with low and no enrolments and their potential for deletion. It was reiterated that additional reasoning and evidence would need to be collected from industry stakeholders for skill standards to be retained.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management is to be confirmed.