

## Communique

Meeting No: 2021.03  
9 December 2021

**The Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met on Thursday, 9 December via video conference.**

This meeting discussed current Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management (AHC) projects, VET Reform and industry skills reporting.

### Industry Intelligence

IRC members presented their latest industry intelligence and engagement to the meeting. Common themes to emerge included:

- Disruption to supply chains
- Lack of access to skilled labour
- Higher costs which were not being matched by revenues in many spaces

### AHC Case for Endorsement

The IRC acknowledged the recent endorsement from the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC) regarding the AHC Version 7 Case for Endorsement. At the time of this meeting, final approval was pending from the Skills Ministers.

### AHC Project Updates

The IRC was updated on current projects and their status, with IRC project nominees adding additional commentary for the Committee on:

- [Respect for Country Job Skills Project](#)
- [Ag & Horticulture Core Skills Project](#)
- [Permaculture, Organic Production & Composting Projects](#)

### VET Reform – Industry Clusters

The IRC considered an update on VET Reform and the proposal to establish up to 9 Industry Clusters. The IRC noted that a selection process had commenced earlier in the week. Discussion involved the opportunities for the Agribusiness and Food Production Cluster which is aligned to the existing coverage of IRCs being assisted by Skills Impact.

The IRC discussed the broader scope of work as part of the changing VET system and the role of industry within the new system.

Broader industry engagement is still required and IRC work will be ongoing.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation and Land Management is to be confirmed for the early months of 2022