

Communique

Meeting No: 2018.05

14 June 2018

The Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met at the Parkroyal Hotel at Melbourne Airport on 14 June 2018. Present at the meeting were IRC members and guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

Case for Endorsement of FBP Training Package, V2.0 sign off

The qualifications, skill sets and units of competency produced from the recent review projects (Food Science and Technology, Wine Operations, Food & Beverage Manufacturing – Cross Sector and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Standards) will be included in the *FBP Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Training Package Version 2.0*. Several issues within this document were discussed and clarified during this meeting.

Members considered the ramifications of the request to substitute Food Processing Industry occupational health and safety units (FDFOHS) with Business Services workplace health and safety units (BSBWHS) in the core of several qualifications. Members suggested several changes to the Case for Endorsement document to ensure that those affected understand that the COAG policy for rationalisation and removal of the duplicated units is driving this change.

Members agreed to remove the Food Safety Skill Set that was reinstated, based on late feedback in the project, as there is insufficient evidence that it is necessary.

Project brief

Members considered the first draft of the plan for the combined project to redevelop components relating to artisanal food manufacturing. Members requested further information about the industries involved, the skills needed and how this project will meet those needs before this project brief is approved.

Industry reports

Members agreed to give brief reports on their industries at future meetings.

IRC membership changes

Several resignations and changes in positions have resulted in three vacant positions on this IRC. Members are taking action to fill each of these roles and have invited two organisations to complete nomination forms to become members.

Reviewing the system

Members discussed the progress of the current IRC system, considering what is working and what could be improved. Some shortfalls, benefits and changes to the current system were noted. Members discussed the rise of industry-based training; the need for a greater understanding of the VET system and its components, by industry and by IRC members; and talked about building stronger connections with AISC members. This issue will be discussed again at the next IRC meeting, as well as strategic approaches to the future skills forecast that will anticipate skill needs in the various food and beverage manufacture sectors.

Next meeting

The next FBP IRC meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday 31 October 2018.