

Communique

Meeting No: 2018.02

20 April 2018

The Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation & Land Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met at the Qantas Meeting rooms at the Sydney Airport on 20 April 2018. Present at the meeting were experts and members of peak body associations in this industry.

Skills Forecast and Training Package Development

Skills Impact provided an update for the IRC about their SSO role and an overview of the Skills Forecast and training package development process.

The creation of the Skills Forecast includes industry round table meetings; desktop research, via sources such as Australian Bureau of Statistics and the National Centre for Vocational Education Research, industry data from white pages and conferences; and industry input facilitated by the IRC. The IRC suggested that more input should be sought from local Government, which are a major employer of skilled workers in this industry.

The Skills Forecasts are submitted to the Australian Industry Skills Committee (AISC), which draws on this information to update their AISC National Schedule, and to determine future Training Package Projects. Subject Matter Experts and/or a Technical Advisory Committee are assembled for each project, for input into the draft qualifications, skill sets or units of competency. Timelines are formulated and feedback is sought from stakeholders and the public. The final draft training package materials are reviewed by the IRC before being submitted to the AISC as part of a Case for Endorsement. Once endorsed by the AISC, the training package is published on Training.gov.au.

IRC Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work

The IRC discussed the Priority Skills list in the Skills Forecast and the order of priorities for projects to be submitted to the Australian Industry and Skills Committee. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to increase the priority of sports turf skills from number 5 to number 4. The Skills priorities are now:

1. Conservation and Land Management qualifications reviews
2. Production nurseries skills in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), growing media and irrigation management / climate control
3. Landscape qualifications; pathways and ecology
4. Sports turf skills update
5. Roof top and vertical gardening
6. Carbon Farming skills sets
7. Permaculture review

Case for Change

The Case for Change for the review of Arboriculture was supported and will be submitted to the AISC.

Next meeting – **May 2018**