

Communique

The Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met at the Atura Hotel, Adelaide Airport on 30 November 2019. Present at the meeting were IRC members, guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

Change of Scope of Advanced Wine Industry Skills project

The need to develop one more unit within this project than was originally requested was determined after consultation with various wineries. Representatives from wineries in several states requested units to address skills in highly automated bottling and packaging processes. The IRC agreed that the change of scope document be submitted to the AISC.

FBP IRC Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work 2020-23

The FBP IRC discussed the development of the 2020-23 Skills Forecast. Certificate IV in Plant Baking and Certificate IV in Flour Milling may be suggested for review. Issues relating to recycling, food waste, food packaging and the demand for alternative proteins are to be described in the sector overview of the next Skills Forecast. Further issues are to be considered, proposed and researched before being included in this document.

Future planning for this IRC

Members addressed the lack of certainty about methods for renewing and maintaining membership of this committee. Members agreed to consider a range of issues and options for proposing these to the Department of Employment and Skills.

Case for Change – Baking training and assessment materials

Skills Impact has been asked to submit a proposal to develop or collate training and assessment materials to support RTOs delivering baking qualifications. This IRC agreed that applying to develop training and assessment materials is not something they approve or decide, noting that assessment guidance at a national level would improve consistency of outcomes and that they supported Skills Impact progressing this submission to the AISC.

Request by AISC for further information about the AQF levels of the artisan qualifications

Members of this IRC considered a range of aspects to the alignment of these qualifications as raised by the AISC and determined, after consideration of the work covered in the units within these qualifications, that these qualifications are appropriately aligned at the AQF 4 and 5 levels.

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry Reference Committee

At the next meeting of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing IRC (13 November) the future of this committee will be considered by the IRC.

Reports on the Food Processing Project, the Wine operations project, changes within the VET system and the results of the recent survey of IRC members were noted.

Next meeting

It was proposed that the next meeting of this IRC be a face-to-face meeting in February or March 2020. A date is yet to be confirmed.