



Australian Government
Australian Skills Quality Authority

ASQA

Select Committee on Productivity in Australia
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By email: productivity.sen@aph.gov.au

Submission in response to the Select Committee on Productivity in Australia Discussion Paper

Thank you for the opportunity for the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) to make a submission in response to the Senate Committee on Productivity in Australia's Discussion Paper.

Improving Australia's productivity performance is a key priority for Government. As the national regulator for the VET sector, ASQA plays an important role in supporting productivity by ensuring regulatory settings are adaptive, proportionate and targeted to the areas of greatest impact. Our Smart Regulation approach is designed to reduce unnecessary burden on Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) while maintaining strong protections for learners and the integrity of the sector.

As outlined in ASQA's [response](#) to the Treasurer and the Minister for Finance's call for regulatory measures to support productivity, ASQA contributes to improving sector productivity and support economic growth by:

Reducing regulatory burden

- Streamlining activities that provide limited value and redirecting effort to areas of greatest impact.
- Removing unnecessary administrative burden where alternative approaches can achieve the same regulatory outcome.

Strengthening risk-based, proportionate regulation

- Refining and maturing our differentiated risk-based approach, using the full range of regulatory powers to focus oversight where it has the greatest impact and incentivise compliance.

Supporting system-wide reforms

- Contributing to greater tertiary harmonisation through implementation of the Dual Sector Strategy.
- Embedding the 2025 Standards for RTOs by focusing on outcomes and enabling providers to demonstrate compliance with greater flexibility.

Digital Transformation

- Advancing ASQA's Digital Transformation Program to modernise systems, improve digital interactions and enhance information collection and analysis.

ASQA's [submission](#) to the Productivity Commission's inquiry into the *Building a skilled and adaptable workforce*, for example, provided a number of recommendations in relation to building skills and qualifications for a more productive workforce and ensuring fit-for-purpose occupational entry regulations. We would welcome further engagement to explore these and other opportunities in more detail.

Australia's VET sector plays a key role in meeting national skills needs and ensuring a highly skilled and productive workforce. ASQA welcomes the opportunity to further engage with Government's productivity agenda as it relates more specifically to skills and the economy.

Yours sincerely

Saxon Rice
Chief Executive Officer
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