

QUALITY OF ASSESSMENT ACTION GROUP REFERENCE

Purpose

The NQC has established the Quality of Assessment Action Group to address the widely held perceptions across the national training system that the quality of assessment practices needs to improve. The Quality of Assessment Action Group may make recommendations to the NQC, but does not have independent decision-making powers. High level policy issues around the design of training packages will be cross referenced to the relevant Action Group.

Objectives

The objectives of the Quality of Assessment Action Group are to provide recommendations to the NQC for achieving:

- Improved assessor capability and high quality assessment practices;
- High quality assessment resources which provide for consistency of outcomes; and
- Strengthened quality assurance arrangements for assessment.

Outputs

- A scoping report that reviews what constitutes and contributes to quality assessment and identifies key issues impacting on quality assessment in the current context and analyses materials currently available to support the VET workforce in assessment (from the 2008 NQC project *Quality of Assessment Practices* stage 1)
- A report that analyses the breadth of existing materials in support of quality assessment at all AQF levels, identifies gaps and proposes a strategy for addressing gaps (from the 2008 NQC project *Quality of Assessment Practices* stage 2);
- Publication and dissemination of the Stage 1 & 2 reports (from the 2008 NQC project *Quality of Assessment Practices*)
- A National Strategic Industry Audit of the TAA04 Training Package that will provide recommendations to the NQC to address findings relating to delivery of the package and issues of non-compliance with AQTF standards; a high level strategic report that pulls together and connects the findings of the Strategic Industry Audit, and the findings of the IBSA review of the TAA04; which provides recommendations for addressing the issues in a holistic way; and provides advice on an appropriate communication and dissemination strategy for the findings and recommendations from the project.
- A report of the scoping project that analysed alternative frameworks for workplace recognition and developed conceptual thinking about what a broader

recognition policy might be (from the 2008 NQC project *Alternative frameworks for recognition of workplace training*);

- A report of the project to research, develop and trial good practice models/strategies (including principles and guidelines) for moderation of assessment (from the 2008 NQC project *National approach to moderation to improve consistency of assessment*);
- Publication and dissemination of good practice models/strategies (including principles and guidelines) for moderation of assessment; and
- A study which scopes the feasibility of establishing an assessor registration system (following on from the 2008 NQC project *Quality of Assessment Practices Stage 1* report).

Consultation and communication requirements

The Quality of Assessment Action Group will consult with the following groups as relevant in undertaking its activities:

- DEEWR
- STAs
- RCABs
- Peak employer and employee industry bodies
- Peak RTO bodies
- NVEAC
- Regulatory/occupational licensing bodies
- NCVET
- NISC
- IBSA

Governance and Membership

The Quality of Assessment Action Group will report directly to the NQC on milestones and achievement of outputs and will make specific recommendations at the completion of its work.

Membership of the Action Group, as per the protocol in place between the NQC and MCVTE, will be approved by the NQC. The Action Group will have as Chair, Mary Hicks and as Deputy Chairs, Michelle Bissett and Julie Moss and will comprise the following representation:

- State and territory government representatives
- Employer and employee industry representatives— including the Chair and Deputy Chair;
- Representative/s of provider and/or client groups
- IBSA

Operational and administrative arrangements

- The Quality of Assessment Action Group will exist to 31 December 2009.
- The Secretariat function will be provided by TVET Australia.

All government representatives on the Quality of Assessment Action Group will meet the costs of being associated with the membership of the Action Group (including travel and accommodation). Industry and client group representatives will be assisted, where necessary, with the cost of attending meetings.

Budget

The NQC will allocate a budget to the Action Group on a project by project basis as concept briefs are approved. The Secretariat will be responsible for administering the budget and providing appropriate reports to the Action Group and the NQC.

Activities/projects for which concept briefs will be developed is shown in the table below.

Activities/Projects
Quality of Assessment Practices (Stage 2) Assessment Resources – gaps and strategy
Publication and dissemination of Stages 1 & 2 of the Quality of Assessment Practices (2008 NQC project)
Publication and dissemination of good practice models/strategies (including principles and guidelines) for moderation of assessment
Strategic Industry Audit of the TAA04 Training Package <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit of delivery and assessment along with report and recommendations (Stage 1) • High level strategic report together with a communication and dissemination strategy (Stage 2)
A study which scopes the feasibility of establishing an assessor registration system (following on from the 2008 NQC project <i>Quality of Assessment Practices Stage 1</i> report).

Milestones and Timeframes

The Action Group will report directly to the NQC on milestones and achievement of outputs and will make specific recommendations at the completion of its work.

Milestone	Timeframe
<p>Completion of the scoping report that reviews what constitutes and contributes to quality assessment and identifies key issues impacting on quality assessment in the current context and analyses materials currently available to support the VET workforce in assessment (from the 2008 NQC project <i>Quality of Assessment Practices</i> stage 1)</p> <p>A report that analyses the breadth of existing materials in support of quality assessment across all AQF levels, identifies gaps and proposes a strategy for addressing gaps (from the 2008 NQC project <i>Quality of Assessment Practices</i> stage 2)</p>	<p><i>Final report</i> to the April 2009 NQC meeting</p> <p><i>Final report</i>: Late May 2009</p>

Milestone	Timeframe
Publication and dissemination of Stage 1 & 2 reports	July 2009
National Strategic Industry Audit report – TAA04 (Stage 1)	<i>Draft strategic industry audit report</i> October 2009 <i>Final report:</i> December 2009
High level strategic report together with communication and dissemination strategy (Stage 2)	Early February 2010
A report of the scoping project that analysed alternative frameworks for workplace recognition (2008 NQC project)	<i>Final report:</i> March 2009
Provision of input to the National Consistency Action Group's strategy for identifying the level of national consistency in the operation of the AQTF by RCABS and to the development of Quality Indicators for RCABs to ensure AQTF auditing and monitoring processes foster good assessment practices.	April 2009
Report of the project to research, develop and trial good practice models/strategies (including principles and guidelines) for moderation of assessment (from the 2008 NQC project <i>National approach to moderation to improve consistency of assessment</i>);	<i>Progress report:</i> April 2009 <i>Final report:</i> early July 2009
Publication and dissemination of good practice models/strategies (including principles and guidelines) for moderation of assessment.	August 2009
A study which scopes the feasibility of establishing an assessor registration system (following on from the 2008 NQC project <i>Quality of Assessment Practices Stage 1</i> report).	<i>Progress report:</i> October 2009 <i>Final report:</i> December 2009

Equity Statement

The Quality of Assessment Action Group will operate in accordance with the NQC policies regarding equity.