

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GPO Box 169, Hobart, TAS 7001 Australia
Ph (03) 6233 7060



17 December 2012

Dear Employer

As you may be aware, from 1 July 2013, there will be a new public vocational education and training (VET) provider for Tasmania, called TasTAFE.

TasTAFE will bring together the Tasmanian Polytechnic and Tasmanian Skills Institute to offer simple, more streamlined VET for learners and business alike.

Current clients of the TSI and Polytechnic have been informed of these changes and have received the attached information sheet to address any questions they may have at this time.

Although TasTAFE does not come into effect until 1 July 2013, it is important to note there will be **no change** to the way in which learners enrol in VET courses at the beginning of next year. Learners will enrol in the Polytechnic and the Skills Institute as they do now and both organisations will continue to operate up until the time TasTAFE begins.

After 1 July 2013 continuity will be provided for learners by TasTAFE. Learners who commence their studies after this date will enrol directly through TasTAFE.

A key element to the transformation of publicly funded VET is a new Vocational Education and Training Act that is currently being developed. The Act will include TasTAFE. The aim is to introduce the legislation as early as possible in the 2013 Autumn session of Parliament, which commences in March. There will be a brief consultation period on the penultimate draft of the Bill and this is likely to occur in January 2013. If you are interested in the opportunity to provide comment on the draft Bill, please email vetreview@education.tas.gov.au.

It's no secret that Tasmania's ongoing economic development and prosperity relies on the skills and qualifications of our people. The state needs both young and mature-aged Tasmanians to acquire the skills and qualifications needed to make business profitable and productive. TasTAFE will provide high quality VET courses tailored to the business needs of those in your industry sector.

If you need any further information about what is happening next year, please email:

vetreview@education.tas.gov.au or visit the website: www.education.tas.gov.au and look for **Reform of Tasmania's VET system** in the "In focus" section of the website.

Yours sincerely

Colin Pettit

Chair, Tasmanian Public Vocational Education and Training (VET) Review Steering Committee