



Welcome to the April edition of the HSSO update

It has been another big couple of months at the HSSO—we've rolled out several resources to support the sector and our program of engagement continues.

Last month we launched our [How To Engage guide](#), an online and downloadable resource. The guide has been designed to help employers navigate the vocational education and training (VET) sector and build stronger relationships with registered training organisations. The guide will also be a useful resource for registered training organisations.

We also released our [Findings From The Sector – workforce forum report](#). The report is the output of our 2021 roadshow series. Talking to representatives from the health, early childhood education and care, human services, and VET sectors, we discovered consistent workforce development themes across Australia. Our report reinforces that our sectors are under pressure like no other time in modern history, with increasing demand for more personalised care and support, to the shifting market forces of an aging population. We need significant, immediate, and permanent changes to get in front of the looming workforce shortage. The individuals we met with during our forums have great ideas about how we can address some of the challenges, but our approach must be multifaceted, swift, and not just a flash in the pan.

I'm pleased to advise we have submitted our application for the Australian Government's VET Reform Industry Cluster process. Thank you to everyone who supported our application—we had an overwhelming response.

The Australian Government through the Department of Health has announced a new \$91 million initiative to support the Home Care Workforce to attract, train and retain new personal care workers. Excitingly, the HSSO will help deliver this important initiative in Victoria and Tasmania. We will work with partners including Aged & Community Services (ACSA), PowerHouse Hub and MEGT.

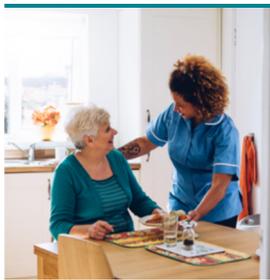
In the last couple of weeks, we also heard the announcement of the government's budget, and Opposition's response. We welcome any additional focus on training for our sector—there couldn't be a better investment. It's the commitments we make now that will have far-reaching impact for generations to come. We will continue to be active contributors in policy discussions for skills and workforce development in our sectors.

Over the coming months, our focus shifts to other projects, including finalising our mandatory work placements guide and developing our recognition of prior learning toolkit for the Certificate III in Individual Support (CHC33015) for aged care and disability pathways. We will keep you updated through our newsletters and project updates, and you can find out more by visiting our [website](#).

Take care and stay safe.



Jodi Schmidt
Chief Executive Officer
Human Services Skills Organisation



Focus on personal care workforce

The HSSO will help attract, train, and retain new personal care workers in Victoria and Tasmania.

[Learn more](#)



Subsidised 360 leadership assessments

Eligible organisations in aged care and disability support can nominate their frontline or middle management staff to participate in an assessment.

[Learn more](#)

Cara builds workforce capability

With over 1,000 staff Cara maximises vocational education and training through strong partnerships with training organisations.

Read the case study and learn about how Cara works with RTOs to train workers and build recruitment pathways.

[Read more](#)



Top workforce concerns in new report

Research shows employers across sectors and across Australia share similar workforce challenges.

[Learn more](#)



A Guide To VET For Human Services

This guide contains information, case studies, and tools that will help organisations get more out of VET.

[Learn more](#)



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