

Review of the skills base in NSW and the future challenges for further education and training

The Minister for Education and Training has requested IPART undertake a review of the skills base in NSW and the future challenges for further education and training in NSW.

The terms of reference for the review are as follows:

- 1. The future demand for skills in NSW over the next 20 years.
- 2. The probable future sources of supply of skilled labour for NSW, including the possible supply from retrained 'mature' labour.
- 3. The consequent demands for the further education and training system in NSW and the implications for TAFE in particular.
- 4. The economic and social implications of meeting this increased demand for further education and training in NSW.
- 5. The capacity of the further education and training system to accommodate these demands for skilled labour.
- 6. Changes that should be made to the State-regulated system to assist in meeting future demands, including the State's regulatory framework and governance structures. Commonwealth-State agreements that have implications for any recommendations should also be considered.

A draft report will be released in July 2006, with a final report by the end of 2006. IPART will release an issues paper by 23 December 2005.