

Superseded Unit Review Project

Technical Advisory Group (TAG) | Terms of Reference

The Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance (AUSMASA) is one of 10 Australian Government Jobs and Skills Councils established by the Australian Government to provide industry with a stronger, more strategic voice in ensuring Australia's VET sector delivers better outcomes for learners and employers.

AUSMASA will stand up a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to complete projects:

- as outlined in the [Annual Training Product Development Plan](#), and/or
- initiated under an agreed Additional Funding Approval in response to urgent priority skills and workforce issues or for the delivery of national and emerging priorities.
- at the request of a Strategic Workforce Advisory Panel (SWAP).

Overview of the project

This project will undertake a comprehensive desktop review and audit to identify the extent to which superseded units of competency are listed in current qualifications and skill sets. The training products within the scope of work are those within the following training packages:

- AUM – Automotive Manufacturing (AUM) Training Package
- AUR - Automotive Retail, Service and Repair (AUR) Training Package
- RII – Resources and Infrastructure (RII) Training Package (Mining)

The project involves two distinct industry sectors: automotive and mining. As a result, public consultation will be conducted in two phases. To ensure effective engagement, separate TAGs will be established for each industry sector during the consultation process.

Project deliverables:

- A report specifying the qualifications that contain superseded units of competency.
- Updating qualifications and skill sets in AUM, AUR and RII (mining) training packages to include current units of competency where this is supported by stakeholder consultation.
- Update the Companion Volume Implementation Guide (CVIG)
- A Training Product Submission for the Assurance Body, containing all requirements as specified in the TPPDEPP.

1. Purpose of the TAG

The primary role of the Superseded Unit Project TAGs is to advise AUSMASA about the impact of replacing superseded units in identified training products within their area of industry expertise. There will be two separate TAGs established, one for the automotive industry and another for the mining industry. The role of the TAG members is to:

- identify any unintended consequences of updating superseded units
- provide advice on replacing superseded units where the superseding unit is deemed non-equivalent
- Connect AUSMASA with additional stakeholders for consultation
- ensuring the updated training products:
 - are of high quality
 - meet the workforce development needs of industry, enterprises, and individuals
 - satisfy the requirements of the Training Package Organising Framework which comprise:
 - [Standards for Training Packages](#)
 - [Training Package Products Policy](#) (TPPP)
 - [Training Package Products Development and Endorsement Process Policy](#) (TPPDEPP)

Members of the TAG are responsible for:

- providing advice about the unintended consequences of updating superseded units in training products in their area of expertise, automotive manufacturing, automotive retail, service and repair or mining.
- providing sign-off for each stage of the project including draft products for national consultation.
- considering public and government feedback received and forming decisions on required revisions to training products.
- ensuring all feedback documented in the project Consultation Log has been considered and a response formed and documented.

2. TAG Structure

The size of the TAG takes into consideration the size and complexity of the project. The TAG will have a maximum of 15, and no less than 6 members at any time. This does not include the Chair (see section 5 for details regarding the Chair).

In accordance with the Training Package Products Development and Endorsement Process Policy, the TAG will comprise practitioners with current subject matter expertise across a breadth of jurisdictions, educational experts, state and territory representatives with relevant expertise and RTOs.

2.1 TAG representatives

Members of the TAG are appointed by the AUSMASA CEO based on the following:

- skills, knowledge, and expertise relevant to the project
- skills and knowledge of related emerging technologies

The Union representative will be appointed to a TAG based on the following:

- representation of workers in a field relevant to the project.

Regulatory body or state training authority representatives will be appointed to a TAG based on the following:

- representation of a body or authority with responsibility relevant to the project.
- representation of a jurisdiction where the project is particularly relevant.

RTO representatives will be appointed to a TAG based on the following:

- representation of the public or private provider sector (1 of each where possible), and
- skills and knowledge of training and assessment provision in a field relevant to the project.

3. Selection and Term of TAG Representatives

The Senior Manager of VET Implementation oversees the process of setting up the TAG prior to the public consultation stage for each industry.

Invitations to participate in TAGs will be:

- published on the AUSMASA website.
- circulated via the AUSMASA Newsletter.
- sought via a call for Expression of Interest (EOI), to be open for a minimum of two weeks.
- made by direct invitation to member organisations and/or representatives.

The Chair may take advice from SWAPs and their representatives as to individuals with suitable expertise. The Chair will also consider individuals and organisations identified by AUSMASA's Workforce Strategy & Industry Engagement team as well as those identified in consultation logs or who have provided feedback to AUSMASA through any of its feedback channels.

TAG members serve for the duration of the project.

3.1 Selection and term of TAG membership

The Senior Manager VET Implementation will assess potential TAG members according to the following criteria:

- their knowledge, skills, and industry experience relevant to their industry sector, automotive or mining.
- previous committee/advisory panel experience.
- capacity to commit the time required by the TAG.
- willingness to collaborate with other TAG members to achieve the objectives of the project.
- not currently hold a position on any other AUSMASA panel, including but not limited to the Strategic Workforce Advisory Panel (SWAP), to ensure the avoidance of any potential conflicts of interest.
- an assessment of any declared, actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest.

The selection of TAG members will be guided by a Skills Matrix (SM) which will ensure that subject matter experts from industry, union representatives, RTOs, State Training Authorities, and regulators are represented. The SM will assist in determining the skills and experience required to achieve an appropriate, balanced representation and TAG composition. This will include consideration of the diversity of lived experience, and a cross-section of small, medium, and large organisations across jurisdictions as appropriate to the project.

In accordance with Section 1.3 of the Training Package Products Development and Endorsement Process Policy, AUSMASA will publish details of the TAG including its membership and terms of reference, on the AUSMASA website.

Should a TAG member step down from the position before the end of the project, they will have the option to nominate a replacement from their organisation. The Chair will assess the nomination based on the standard criteria (including the SM) for TAG members. If a suitable representative has not been nominated, the Chair may identify another suitable representative.

If required, the Chair will arrange for a call for EOI for the vacant position. The call for EOI would be open for a minimum of two weeks.

3.2 Expectations of TAG members

At all times, TAG members will be required to act in accordance with the [AUSMASA Code of Conduct](#).

TAG members are expected to:

- attend and participate constructively and positively in all TAG meetings.
- actively participate and contribute to the function of the TAG which includes reviewing stakeholder feedback on draft training products and making decisions relating to implementation of stakeholder feedback.
- not behave in a way that brings AUSMASA and the TAG into disrepute
- take an apolitical approach to matters concerning AUSMASA and the TAG
- respect the viewpoints of others and the right for them to express their views
- if necessary, attend additional meetings if circumstances require i.e., upon AUSMASA request to progress a project.

TAG members may be asked to represent the activities of the TAG as required from time to time and in agreement with AUSMASA. This may include conferences, events, or other similar forums.

The TAG will provide quarterly progress updates to the AUSMASA Board in accordance with AUSMASA processes. The development of progress updates will be supported by a member of the Training Product Development team.

3.3 Remuneration of members

Membership of the TAG is unpaid. If members are required to attend face-to-face meetings (at the request of, and by prior agreement with the Chair) they may be reimbursed for reasonable travel and other expenses incurred.

4. TAG Meetings

TAG meetings will be held:

- monthly or as scheduled by the Chair.
- face-to-face or virtually, at the discretion of the Chair.

A meeting quorum will be five (5) TAG members.

4.1 Decision making

The TAG acts as an advisor to AUSMASA and as such, does not have the power to commit AUSMASA nor its Board to any recommendations unless given express delegated authority to do so from the Board.

TAGs will operate on a consensus basis. If a consensus position cannot be reached on any issue, the project Consultation Log will be updated to reflect the outcome of any discussion, and the Chair will determine the appropriate course of action.

Options open to the Chair include, but are not limited to:

- Recommending further consultation be undertaken and evidence gathered to assist the TAG members to form a majority view.
- Referring to the Senior Manager VET Implementation.
- Calling for a sub-committee to be established to review and advise on the issue.

5. TAG Chair

Appointed by the Executive Director Training Products, Projects & Implementation, the Chair of the TAG will be:

- a member of the AUSMASA Training Products or VET Implementation team, or
- an external contractor engaged by AUSMASA to manage the project, or
- an appropriate person identified through the TAG recruitment/EOI process.

The Chair will be appointed for the duration of the project.

5.1 Role of the Chair

The Chair of the TAG will:

- Ensure an agenda for meetings is developed and circulated ahead of meetings and that meetings are minuted.
- Ensure that conflict of interest declarations is a standing agenda item at every TAG Meeting. Should the meeting identify any real or perceived conflicts of interest, the TAG Chair will take appropriate action.
- Ensure the effective operation of the regular meetings, namely by:
 - following the agenda and keeping meetings focused on agenda items.
 - summarising key decisions and actions.
 - managing how people work together in the meeting,

- starting and finishing meetings on time.
- Effectively communicate, support, and promote the activities of the TAG as required.
- Support the prioritisation and deliverables of the TAG.
- Leverage the TAG representatives' expertise; and for important or technical issues, or when time is limited, establish a sub-committee to support the work of the TAG.

The Chair can delegate any of their tasks to any TAG or sub-committee member if required for the effective and efficient functioning of the TAG.

6. Role of TAG Sub-Committees

The Chair may establish one or more sub-committees as required to support the work of a TAG which could include investigating, informing, advising on, or resolving a specific matter on behalf of the TAG.

The TAG must provide clear instructions to the sub-committee on the reason/s for the sub-committee and the question or issue it is being formed to answer or resolve for the TAG.

A sub-committee:

- may be established to support the TAG on a specific area or topic that requires specialist expertise or consultation.
- may be established to ensure a sufficiently broad range of lived experience is considered.
- may consult with other TAGs, SWAP representatives and external individuals and/or organisations with the relevant expertise.
- may conduct research and/or interrogate available data sources.

A sub-committee carries out the required work on behalf of the TAG and provides a recommendation(s) and/or options to the TAG. The TAG decides which recommendations or options it accepts and must outline a rationale for any decision it takes.

The TAG may ask the sub-committee to investigate further options and recommendations.

A sub-committee will typically have a minimum of three members and no more than twelve members with relevant and current expertise on the topic.

6.1 Selection and Term of Sub-Committee Representatives

The sub-committee will be coordinated by a Coordinator, who may be:

- a member of the AUSMASA Training Products or VET Implementation team, or
- an external contractor engaged by AUSMASA to manage the project.

The Coordinator will consider suggestions from the TAG and otherwise identify people holding the required skills and knowledge for the work the sub-committee is to undertake. A sub-committee is not designed to replicate the composition of the TAG but rather to be comprised of representatives able to respond to, and support the work assigned to it.

The sub-committee may include:

- TAG members
- people with the required technical skills and knowledge
- people with relevant lived experience.

Sub-committee representatives serve for the life of the sub-committee.

Sub-committee representative roles are unpaid. If representatives are required to attend face-to-face meetings (at the request of, and by prior agreement with the Chair) they may be reimbursed for reasonable travel and other expenses incurred.

Should a sub-committee representative step down from their position the Coordinator will identify and appoint a replacement if required.

When the TAG is satisfied that the sub-committee has completed its work and has provided the required advice and/or recommendations the sub-committee will be stood down.

6.2 Sub-Committee Meetings

Sub-committees will meet as scheduled by the Coordinator.

6.3 Role of the Sub-Committee Coordinator

The Coordinator will:

- develop the agenda for meetings and ensure meetings are minuted.
- ensure that conflict of interest declarations is a standing agenda item at every meeting, and should the meeting identify any real or perceived conflicts of interest, the Coordinator will take appropriate action.
- ensure the effective operation of the regular meetings, namely by:
 - following the agenda and keeping meetings focused on agenda items.
 - summarising key decisions and actions.
 - managing how people work together in the meeting,
 - starting and finishing meetings on time.
- effectively communicate and support the activities of the sub-committee as required.
- support the prioritisation and deliverables of the sub-committee.
- present the findings and/or recommendations of the sub-committee to the TAG.
- advise the sub-committee of the decisions made by the TAG.

When the TAG has determined that the work of the sub-committee is complete the Coordinator will advise all sub-committee representatives that the sub-committee is being stood down.

7. Conflict of Interest

All TAG and sub-committee members must be aware of and comply with the [AUSMASA Conflict of Interest Policy](#). All representatives must declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts to AUSMASA as soon as they arise.

8. Intellectual Property

AUSMASA retains all intellectual property associated with and developed by the TAG and sub-committees.

If required, members will be requested to provide permission for the use of organisation logos, or acknowledgements as part of any publications that may be produced by AUSMASA based on the work of the TAGs and sub-committees. Any attribution of authorship or support by individual

representatives will be accompanied by an appropriate disclaimer noting that such information does not necessarily represent the views of individual contributors or their respective organisations.

9. Social media

All TAG and sub-committee members will abide by AUSMASA social media protocol as outlined below.

- Matters discussed by the TAGs, and Sub-Committees are confidential.
- No social media content regarding AUSMASA and/or the TAGs/Sub-Committees is to be posted without prior consent from AUSMASA.
- No discriminatory or inflammatory remarks on posts related to AUSMASA will be accepted.

10. Privacy and confidentiality

Members must treat as private and confidential all discussions, recommendations and advice of the TAG unless permitted by AUSMASA.

The AUSMASA CEO has authority to take any action against a member of the TAG who breaches their privacy and confidentiality responsibilities.

11. Declaration (to be completed once the appointment is confirmed)

I have read and understood the documents noted below (please indicate your acknowledgment).

[AUSMASA Code of Conduct.](#)

[AUSMASA Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

12. Acceptance of Terms of Reference

Print Name – TAG/Sub-Committee Representative

Signature – TAG/Sub-Committee Representative

Date: DD/MM/YYYY