



Media release

Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Strengthening student pathways to in-demand industries

Better career education and more opportunities for students to find jobs to meet the demands of the modern economy are at the centre of a new parliamentary report.

The Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee has made 43 recommendations to ensure Victoria is keeping pace with labour market needs.

The healthcare, construction, education, renewable energy and digital technology sectors are among those experiencing increased demands for skilled workers.

“Victoria’s economy is changing and Victoria’s workforce will need to change with it,” Committee Chair Alison Marchant said.

The Committee found staffing and resource constraints at Victorian government secondary schools is impacting the quality and consistency of career education.

“As most of Victoria’s future workforce will need a qualification in either vocational education and training (VET) or higher education, we need to guarantee easier access to the training required to secure employment in both established and emerging in-demand industries,” Ms Marchant said.

Barriers for students accessing VET courses included scheduling, costs and limited subject availability. All amplified for minority cohorts including those from regional Victoria.

The recommendations in the report aim to:

- Strengthen existing student pathways
- Expand career education programs
- Improve partnerships between schools and relevant organisations
- Provide tailored supports to parents, students and job seekers

Members of the Committee travelled to Warrnambool and Geelong as part of the inquiry. They also engaged ten youth associates with lived experience of higher education and training.

“These youth associates provided invaluable perspectives that have informed many of the recommendations included in this report,” Ms Marchant said.

Read the full report on the Committee’s website.

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