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Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Skills

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MEDIA RELEASE

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CREATING MORE CHANCES TO GET A JOB

The NSW Government has delivered greater choice for students and employers by building a more flexible and demand-driven vocational education system through Smart and Skilled, an independent review has found.

The two-stage review commissioned by the NSW Skills Board made 32 recommendations to improve the Government-supported training system, and follows the NSW Legislative Council review into the sector.

Minister for Skills John Barilaro said the recent reviews help to make sure students are getting the training they need to secure a job and the VET system is meeting the needs of industry.

“Smart and Skilled was a significant reform delivered with the commitment to giving more people in our communities the support they need to train for the job and career of their choice,” Mr Barilaro said.

“The next phase of Smart and Skilled will deliver a more responsive, flexible skills list matched to the jobs available now and in the future and help training providers to offer new qualifications, provide greater choice to students and continue to deliver fair pricing and funding.”

The 2016-17 Budget provides 550,000 Government-subsidised training places, 50,000 more than last year, for people who can train or upskill to get the job or career they want.

The Government has also been able to make sure the most vulnerable people in our communities have the chance to get into training and into jobs:

- Fee-free scholarships will give 200,000 people in social housing, in out-of-home care and who are experiencing or have experienced domestic and family violence and their dependants access to free vocational education
- Investing \$100 million over the next two years to help young people in areas of high youth unemployment get into training or into a job, and stick at it
- Encouraging more people to take up STEM skills training so they are in the best place to get the jobs of the future

“Students across the State should be able to access a diverse network of training providers, including an efficient and responsive TAFE NSW, high-quality non-government organisations and well-supported community providers, and these reviews have found that Smart and Skilled is on the right course to do this.”

For more information visit: www.training.nsw.gov.au

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