




Speech By
Hon. Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2024

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Training and Skills

 **Hon. LR McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (10.18 am): This week signals a new era for vocational education and training in our state with the launch of our new Queensland Skills Strategy. It is a plan for our future that will deliver one million subsidised training places so Queenslanders can access good jobs with better pay, including additional higher level courses to upskill and reskill. It is a plan for our future that delivers priority skills with a network of high-quality training providers, and it is a plan for our future that is funded by Labor's progressive coal royalties. As part of our Skills Strategy, this morning I am pleased to announce that the Miles government will develop a new Skills Assure suppliers framework. Each year around 250,000 Queenslanders complete training with a Skills Assure supplier, including public, private, not-for-profit and dual sector providers.

The new framework will use evidence to target skills investment, including what courses are subsidised, with what providers and details of when and where. It will focus on making sure that all eligible Queenslanders have access to the high-quality training that we have to offer and it will improve processes for current suppliers and open the door to new ones. The Chief Executive of the Independent Tertiary Education Council Australia, Troy Williams, said—

When it comes to the task of helping Queenslanders into their first job or upskill for a new job, it's great that through the new skills plan the State Government recognises the work of independent training providers and their reputation for delivering quality skills training.

The new framework will create opportunities for all eligible registered training organisations to express interest in supplying priority training in the future and, importantly for Queenslanders, they will have more access to subsidised skills for good jobs in priority, traditional and emerging industries like construction, energy, manufacturing, health and community services and they access that cost-of-living relief thanks to funding from our progressive coal royalties.

With the support of our strong Skills Assure Supplier network, Labor will deliver world-class training for Queenslanders no matter who they are or where they live. This will create jobs, keep our economy strong and ensure a good job is within the reach of every Queenslanders.