



**SUBMISSION**

# **Environmental Sustainability Expert Panel: Options Paper**

**Skills Impact  
IRC Consultation – AUR Training Package**

**27 September 2019**

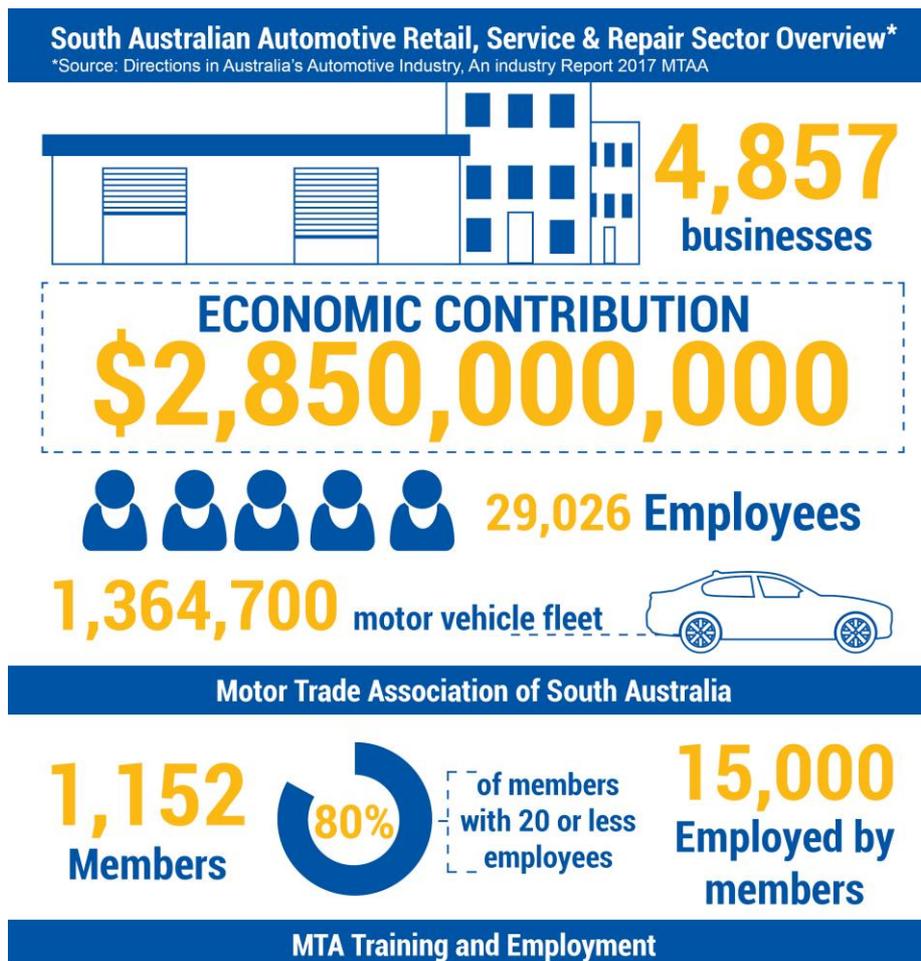
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## 2. About Us

The Motor Trade Association of South Australia is the only dedicated employer organisation representing the interests of automotive retail, service and repair businesses in South Australia.

The MTA Group Training Scheme comprises both our Registered Training and Group Training Organisations. It is the automotive industry's own training provider and is the largest employer of automotive apprentices in South Australia.



We currently have  
over **900** apprentices  
in training

We also directly employ  
**500** apprentices  
through **240** host businesses

### 3. Introduction

The MTA notes that in 2017:

- the Australian Industry & Skills Committee (AISC) commissioned Skills Impact to facilitate a cross-sector project on Skills for Environmental Sustainability. The project was overseen by a Project Reference Group (PRG) comprising representatives nominated by Industry Reference Committees (IRCs);
- the project produced a Case for Change which proposed changes to training package units of competency to reflect current and emerging practices in environmental sustainability across multiple industries, and to reduce the duplication of units of competency that has arisen from a siloed approach to addressing these skills; and
- the case for change did not articulate a process for achieving the proposed changes to training packages.

Furthermore, in 2019:

- the AISC has convened the Environmental Sustainability Expert Panel to provide advice on how the Case for Change recommendations can be progressed; and
- how industry and occupational skill needs for environmental sustainability can be addressed through the VET system.

In considering advice that may be provided to the AISC, the Expert Panel is now seeking industry views on the matters contained in the Options Paper: *IRC Consultation – AUR Training Package*.

The MTA has reviewed the Options Paper and provides its comments below.

### 4. MTA Comments

The MTA makes the following comments regarding the proposed option to *develop/encourage use of generic units and skill sets*:

- The MTA is concerned that any move to generic environmental and sustainability training units that can be adopted across multiple training packages will fail to meet industry specific training requirements. That is, the adoption of a generic unit of competency will, certainly in the case of the automotive industry, result in the need for an additional industry specific unit of competency.
- Currently, training units (identified in the Options Paper) AURAEA001, AURAEA002, AURAEA003 and AURAEA004 (the Training Units) incrementally relate to identifying, following, monitoring and managing environmental and sustainability best practice in an automotive workplace.

- Undoubtedly, the Training Units contain generic material relating to environmental regulations and standards, the reporting of breaches, and reducing, reusing and recycling waste.
- However, the Training Units also contain areas of competency that are specific to the automotive industry, including, but not limited to, the types of waste produced by automotive workplaces and their impact on the environment, including vehicle wastes such as coolants, oils, exhaust emissions, evaporative fuel emissions, and waste components including tyres.
- The MTA is of the view that the Training Units are being delivered and assessed to a standard that meets the automotive industry's needs. The MTA cannot see an argument for replacing the Training Units with generic units and skill sets.
- Furthermore, the MTA is unable to comment on what the impact would be for the automotive industry if the Training Units were replaced with generic (cross sector) units without being aware of the content of the generic units.
- As outlined above, broadly speaking, the MTA anticipates that the adoption of generic units will result in there still being a need for industry specific training units.

## **5. Next Steps**

The MTA is available to provide further information in relation to this submission and to clarify any aspect of it.

This includes meeting with agency representatives and facilitating further consultations with industry on proposed changes.

## **6. Submission Contact**

Please do not hesitate to contact the MTA, should you require any further information in relation to the content of this submission.

In the first instance, please contact:

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