Morena Stanley
A/Executive Officer
Training Accreditation Council
The Council:

- endorsed 99 initial and renewal of registration applications
- approved a total of 56 courses for accreditation and re-accreditation
- undertook 323 audits, comprising 36 initial and 74 renewal of registration audits; 36 accreditation reviews; 68 monitoring audits and 109 amendment to scope audits
Major achievements and key activities for 2013-2014

• conducted 347 risk assessments of RTO applications. Of the 347, 33% (116) did not require an audit and 67% (231) required either a desktop and/or site audit.

• continued its focus on engaging and involving stakeholders and peak bodies in matters related to quality assurance and recognition arrangements.
Major achievements and key activities for 2013-2014

- conducted 70 information sessions related to the AQTF, with participants from across WA attending. Sessions focused on the requirements of becoming an RTO and industry requirements
- finalised the SIA of the Aged Care Industry qualifications. Work continues on the implementation of the recommendations from the report
Major achievements and key activities for 2013-2014

• strengthened its relationship with key industry and regulatory bodies in WA, with a focus on industry engagement, quality assurance outcomes, streamlining of audit processes, and promoting a consistent approach to regulation within the VET environment, including endorsing a new Industry Engagement Framework.
Major achievements and key activities for 2013-2014

- sponsored the 2013 ‘Trainer of the Year Award’ category of the WA Training Awards.
- launched the Council’s new website in May 2014 following a review of its current electronic communication media. The new website provides a more user friendly platform for stakeholders and access to relevant information.
Council Client and Stakeholder Survey

• In June 2014, TAC finalised a survey of its key stakeholders including RTOs as part of its commitment to communicate effectively with stakeholders and to gather appropriate information to enhance its regulatory functions.

• An external organisation was engaged to develop and conduct the survey, with the survey sample consisting of 353 RTOs and 80 stakeholders.
• Responses were received from 234 RTOs and 37 stakeholders.
• Overall, TAC was seen as an effective regulator with positive client interactions, with the most significant feedback being in relation to the case management model which was appreciated by stakeholders.
• Other identified strengths included client interactions and communication with TAC and the Secretariat, and an overwhelming majority of RTOs indicated audits added value to their business.

• Positive responses were received in relation to auditors and the Secretariat.
• The main areas of concern raised by RTOs included issues with ease and use of RTONet (client management system) and the TAC website. The issues related to RTONet and the TAC Website have been addressed through the development of a new RTO portal as part of TAC’s new client management system and the launch in May 2014 of the new TAC Website.
• **Review of regulatory framework in WA**

In June 2014, the C’wealth Minister for Industry released new draft Standards for the Regulation of VET. The draft Standards encompass both RTO and VET Regulator standards.

The Council will also adopt a regulatory framework which will align to the outcomes of the review of VET regulation, including responding to specific VET reforms relevant to WA.
Working relationship with VET Regulators

The Council continues its collaborative working relationship with ASQA, both at a state and national level, and the VRQA, ensuring that the quality of training in WA is managed and regulated effectively, with minimal impact for WA RTOs. A key focus is the communication and consistent application of the new Standards across VET Regulators.
• **Legislative amendments**

In January 2014, WA VET legislation was amended to ensure consistency across VET Regulators. As a result of the release of the new draft Standards, a review of the WA legislation is underway to determine if further legislative amendments are required to ensure a consistent regulatory environment for the WA VET sector.
Strategic Industry Audits

• Significant progress has been made on the SIA of VET in Schools in WA. The SIA has been a major undertaking for Council and is expected to be finalised in late 2014.

• 31 RTOs and 23 qualifications ranging from Cert I to IV were selected as the audit sample. The selection was based on factors including enrolments, risk profile, qualification characteristics and delivery arrangements.
• TAC continues to work collaboratively with the WA Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) on a range of matters related to quality assurance arrangements in WA, including input into policy development at a State and national level, audits of publicly funded RTOs, Training Package reviews, and sharing of information.