

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Training and Skills

Minister for Higher Education



Wednesday, 5 January 2022

EXPLORING A NEW TAFE FOR JOBSEEKERS WEST OF MELBOURNE

The Andrews Labor Government has commissioned a business case exploring a new TAFE campus in Melton to make more skills and training opportunities accessible to jobseekers in Melbourne's west.

Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney today announced work was underway on the business case, led by Member for Melton Steve McGhie.

The project will be undertaken in consultation with students, trainers, industry and community to determine demand for training, local skills needs, best case delivery, local partnerships and a possible site for a TAFE campus.

Melton is one of the fastest-growing areas in Victoria with a forecast population of 330,000 by 2026 – but there is no dedicated TAFE or post-secondary education provider meeting the needs of local jobseekers and industry.

Victorian TAFE and training plays a vital role in giving jobseekers the skills they need for in-demand jobs across the state. This year, 84 per cent of completers were satisfied with their training, and nearly 76 per cent gained a job after completion – with others pursuing further study or remaining in existing jobs.

The business case was funded in the *Victorian Budget 2021/22* and is expected to be completed in early 2022.

Since 2014, the Government has made a record \$3.2 billion investment to rebuild TAFE and support universities and higher education to ensure Victorians have access to high quality education and rewarding career pathways.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney

"TAFE and training is lifechanging and we want all Victorians to have access to the very best opportunities no matter where they live – which is why we have commissioned this business case for a campus in Melton."

"I'm looking forward to receiving the results of the business case so that we can make the best decision about skills and training for the community in Melbourne's growing west."

Quote attributable to Member for Melton Steve McGhie

"I'm excited to lead this business case which will spark discussions with local jobseekers, trainers, industry and community about the need for a local TAFE campus and how that might best serve people in Melbourne's west."