State Government of Victoria

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Mr Dale Pearce
Chair
Victorian Institute of Teaching
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Dear Mr Pearce

ADDENDUM TO THE STATEMENT OF EXPECTIONS FOR THE VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF TEACHING

We are pleased to provide you with an addendum to the Statement of Expectations (SOE) for the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) to guide its strategic plan and business planning processes. Since the previous SOE in July 2024, the Victorian Government has implemented important changes to strengthen child safety and reforms to teacher registration.

This addendum to the SOE clarifies our expectations for VIT in the context of the implementation of these reforms. The VIT plays a critical role in maintaining public confidence in the teaching profession and ensuring that matters relevant to child safety and quality teaching are appropriately assessed and addressed.

We confirm that the July 2024 SOE remains in effect and continues to set out our expectations of the VIT as Victoria's teacher regulator. This addendum should be read in concert with the July 2024 SOE and applies from the date this letter is signed until otherwise amended or replaced.

Current legislative framework

The Minister for Education is responsible for administering the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (the Act) which provides for a high standard of education and training for all Victorians, including setting out the VIT's functions and powers. The Minister for Education shares this responsibility jointly and severally with the Minister for Children for certain provisions of the Act relating to the VIT.

As Victoria's regulator of the teaching profession, in order to provide for the safety and wellbeing of children and assure the quality and suitability of teachers, we expect the VIT to discharge its legislative and regulatory duties as set out in relevant legislation. This addendum to the SOE should be read in the context of the objectives, obligations and functions in the Act and other legislative and non-legislative obligations of the VIT.

Recent legislative amendments have strengthened transparency, information-sharing and regulatory oversight in support of child-safe decision-making. These include:

- *Education and Training Reform Amendment Act 2026*
- *Early Childhood Legislation Amendment (Child Safety) Act 2025*

Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the *Public Records Act 1973* and the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address.

VICTORIA State Government

- *Worker Screening Amendment (Strengthening the Working with Children Check) Act 2025*
- *Social Services Regulation Amendment (Child Safety, Complaints and Worker Regulation) Act 2025*
- *Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority Act 2025.*

Based on consultation with the VIT about the government's priorities and regulatory expectations, this addendum to VIT's SOE highlights updated expectations of the VIT by the Minister for Education and Minister for Children regarding child safety. It also requires enhanced collaboration between relevant authorities and transparent decision-making procedures, as set out below.

Addendum to the VIT's Ministerial Statement of Expectations

This addendum forms part of, and is to be read together with, the SOE issued in July 2024:

G. Strengthening child safety, public confidence and regulatory collaboration

1. When performing any of its regulatory functions, the VIT is already required to consider the wellbeing and safety of children, including by taking into account community expectations. We confirm that the VIT should have regard to contemporary community expectations of child safety and should adopt a risk-based and evidence-informed approach to regulatory decision-making.
2. Work collaboratively with the Department of Education, Victoria Police, the Social Services Regulator, Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority, Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority, teacher regulatory authorities across Australia, and other relevant bodies, to establish effective agreements and processes to appropriately use regulatory powers to support timely information sharing, regulatory decision-making and interventions which are appropriately coordinated.
3. Contribute, as required, to whole-of-government policy, reform and review processes relating to child safety, teacher regulation, national accreditation and teacher standards, and safeguarding arrangements.
4. Promote transparency in regulatory decision-making and public facing regulatory information to ensure processes, publication and decisions are responsive, procedurally fair, and maintain public confidence in teacher regulation.

This addendum makes no change to the expectations in the VIT's previous SOE which applied from July 2024, or its legislative functions or responsibilities. The July 2024 SOE will be reviewed in 2027.

Integration into business planning and review

The VIT should publish this addendum to the SOE on its website as soon as practicable after receipt of this letter.

We request that the VIT incorporate these expectations into its strategic plan and business planning, including setting milestones for when the VIT will meet these expectations, and report on progress against these expectations in the VIT's Annual Report.

We look forward to seeing the VIT continue to work towards achieving best practice in its critical role as the regulator of teachers in Victoria.

Yours sincerely

Gabrielle Williams MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Skills and Training
Minister for First Peoples
Minister for Women and Gender Equality

28 / 10 / 2026

Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Children
Minister for Disability

30 / 10 / 2026

CC: David Howes, Secretary, Department of Education

Encl.: **STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS 2024 FOR THE VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF TEACHING**