



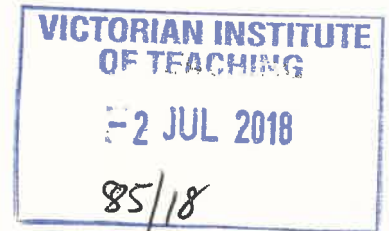
The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Emergency Services

1 Treasury Place
Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: +613 9651 1222

BRI 19320

Mr Peter Corcoran
CEO
Victorian Institute of Teaching
PO Box 531
COLLINS STREET WEST 8007



Dear Mr Corcoran,

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR THE VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF TEACHING

I am pleased to provide you with this Statement of Expectations (SOE) for the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT). This SOE applies from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020.

As Minister for Education, I am 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 by setting out the functions and powers of the VIT. This SOE sets out my expectations of how the VIT will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its regulatory activities and should be read within the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in the Act (as amended).

I acknowledge the achievements of the VIT over the period of the 2017-18 SOE, including applying the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* to early childhood teacher registration, ensuring Victorian teachers are completing professional development under the *Special Needs Plan for Victorian Schools*, application of the Reportable Conduct Scheme to manage teacher misconduct in government schools, and implementation of the Child Safe Standards.

The VIT was also the subject of a significant and wide-ranging review late last year that sets an important direction for strengthening the VIT (VIT Review). The Government has largely accepted the recommendations of that review. I expect the VIT to work with the Department to deliver on all of the actions outlined in the Government response to the VIT Review (see copy **attached**). In particular, the VIT should prioritise the following matters, as identified in the VIT Review:

1. supporting the Government to consider and implement regulatory amendments arising from the VIT Review, including the statutory requirement for VIT to consider child safety and wellbeing, greater alignment of VIT registration to the Working with Children Check scheme, and coordination and information sharing between agencies and regulators (recommendations 1, 6, 7 and 8);
2. contributing to and collaborating with, the Department on the development of reforms to Part 2.6 of the Act, including the teacher disciplinary system, to ensure that the VIT's procedures

represent best regulatory practice and address issues with the current system as identified in the VIT Review (recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 12(c));

3. continuing to improve teacher quality and education, and risk identification and compliance (recommendations 22, 23, 25 and 29); and
4. improving the efficiency and effectiveness of VIT's processes through the development of a set of regulatory principles applying to all of its functions and activities, and the adoption of contemporary, aligned regulatory policies and governance models (see recommendations 15, 17, 18, 19, 21 and 24).

Furthermore, I expect the VIT to continue to advise and support the Government's policy agenda as appropriate, and to play a role in achieving this agenda through the VIT's regulatory function and by cooperating with my Department and other regulators and departments across jurisdictions and portfolios. This includes collaborating on the Government's agenda to make Victoria's teachers the best in the country, through our continued focus on ensuring excellence in teacher quality, education and practice. It also includes the provision of data, information and advice to my Department. VIT will need to consider any schools and teaching initiatives agreed with the Commonwealth Government, any relevant actions agreed in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, and any other emerging policy issues requiring VIT input, including matters arising from the National Review of Teacher Registration being conducted by an Expert Panel under the auspice of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership.

I expect that by 30 June 2018, the VIT will respond to this SOE, outlining how it intends to deliver on the Government's response to the VIT Review. The VIT response should include details of the specific activities that will be undertaken to progress the recommendations. I understand an interim report from the VIT, prepared in consultation with the Department of Education and Training, outlining progress on implementing the recommendations of the VIT Review, is to be provided to me by February 2019. VIT will also need to ensure it has appropriate efficiency and effectiveness measures to be able to assess the implementation of this SOE.

Reporting on the VIT's progress to achieve these expectations should be undertaken in the context of annual financial reporting and incorporated into the VIT's Corporate Plan. This SOE should be published on the VIT website together with its response.

The challenges that have been set for the VIT in this SOE and in the Government response to the VIT Review reflect the critically important role it plays as the regulator of teachers in Victoria. I look forward to the VIT continuing to work towards achieving best practice in the administration and regulation of teachers.

Yours sincerely



26.6.18

The Hon James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Emergency Services

Cc: *Jenny Mikakos MP, Minister for Early Childhood Education*