

Portfolio: Education and Youth Affairs
ESSENTIAL ICT SYSTEMS UPGRADES AND MODIFICATIONS
Talking points:

Future of Education: Essential ICT Systems Upgrades and Modifications **Education and life-long learning**

	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	Total \$'000
Capital	400	0	0	0	400
Depreciation	0	40	40	40	120
Expenses	174	179	0	0	353
Net cost of services	174	219	40	40	473

- The Government will invest **\$473,000** over the next four years upgrading the ACT Teacher Quality Institute and Board of Senior Secondary Studies ICT systems to prepare for the registration of pre-service teachers and early childhood educators, and to continue to safeguard the integrity of the Senior Secondary Certificate.
- This investment ensures we have systems that support learning.

TQI Pre-service Teacher Registration system

- From January 2020, following 2019 changes to the *Teacher Quality Institute Act*, pre-service teachers, seeking to undertake professional experience in an ACT school, must be included on the ACT pre-service teacher register (PSTR). This applies to students undertaking initial teacher education (ITE) courses at an ACT university or any university outside the ACT.
- Current inclusion on the PSTR provides to pre-service teachers information about professional standards and a sense of belonging to the teaching profession. This funding strengthens the business system in order that pre-service teachers have access to information about professional development and resources and streamlined transition to ACT teacher registration.
- The PSTR provides data about pre-service teachers that can be used to assist schools and the Government with workforce planning.

Background (including data):

- In August 2018, a commitment from the *Future of Education Strategy* was for TQI to build on its work on ensuring high quality professional experience for ITE students.
- The establishment and maintenance of the PSTR aligns with the second Foundation in the Future of Education strategy: Empowered Learning Professionals. This Foundation acknowledges that 'a professional teaching workforce requires high

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quality ITE that attracts the right kind of people and leads to well-prepared and enthusiastic graduates entering the profession.’

Registration of Early Childhood Teachers

- We heard very clearly when we consulted on the ACT Government’s Early Childhood Strategy that professional registration for Early Childhood teachers working in the sector is important to enhance this really important role.
- The TQI Board are consulting with the sector at the moment, talking to Early Childhood teachers themselves about what being professionally registered might mean.
- We are building the right professional model for the ACT context, then ensuring our ‘systems’, in this case our registration system supports the vision our schools, settings and teachers have.

ACT Certification System (ACS) - Business as Usual (BAU) Funding for Maintenance and Continuous Improvement

- The investment will be used to enhance the empowerment and user experience of students through the Student Profiles Online portal to increase transparency to students and expand opportunities for student ownership of learning outcomes. The recent use of this portal as the primary method of releasing the ATARs of graduating students has highlighted further areas for continuous improvement and student support.
- This funding will provide certainty in the development of digital, data and technology solutions and the allocation of appropriate and ongoing support for ACS.
- The BAU has been under pressure to meet cost requirements associated with maintenance including fixing faults (bugs), changes in third party software such as browsers, changes in policy, and ongoing operational improvements. This investment will bring support for the system in line with requirements for the next two years.

Background

- The ACT Certification System (ACS) is the online database that stores and processes all students’ personal, course, unit, VET competency and assessment item details and results. The ACS database is critical for the operation of the entire ACT Year 11 and 12 Senior Secondary System.
- This investment will assist in clearing the current backlog of over 80 bugs and high priority user interface enhancements with over 40% of these items waiting for two years or more.

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