

# STATE BUDGET

## 2019-20

### MINISTER FOR EDUCATION HON JOHN GARDNER MP MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 18 June 2019

#### **State Government backs TAFE SA with funding injection**

The Marshall Liberal Government is providing an additional \$25.2 million over four years to TAFE SA, as the public training provider reforms its operations to be more competitive in the Vocational Education and Training sector.

The investment is being made in response to lower forecasts for external revenue growth from the organisation. TAFE SA is still expected to pursue strong growth in external revenue from a range of sources over the forward estimates.

An additional \$1.6 million is being provisioned to recognise delays in TAFE SA meeting its existing efficiency measures. Key TAFE assets will also transfer back from Renewal SA to TAFE SA in 2019-20 providing the Corporation with greater control over the use of its facilities.

The 2019-20 State Budget funding comes in addition to the \$109.8 million rescue package announced in the 2018-19 State Budget.

Education Minister John Gardner said the Government was providing TAFE SA the investment it needs to deliver a fresh start.

“We are focused on supporting TAFE to meet the needs of both South Australians seeking the skills they need to build their careers and the local industry that is seeking a skilled workforce,” said Minister Gardner.

“This investment builds on the \$110 million rescue package already provided to TAFE in last year’s budget. The former Labor Government’s oversight of TAFE failed staff, students, industry and the people of South Australia, culminating in 2017’s quality crisis.

“South Australian job seekers, and businesses, need TAFE SA to be a high-quality training provider.

“We acknowledge that restoring the community’s confidence in TAFE will take time, and we are responding by providing further investment in the organisation as it works towards becoming an efficient and effective training provider that is recognised for quality.

“We have recently undertaken an exhaustive recruitment process for new leadership of the organisation to ensure that an outstanding group of people will oversee a new era for TAFE in South Australia.

“This includes a new board appointed late last year, chaired by Jacqui McGill, and David Coltman beginning work as Chief Executive in April. Importantly, TAFE SA received a positive final report from the Australian Skills Quality Authority in December, meaning young people being offered placements at TAFE can now have full confidence that they will receive the quality training they deserve.”