(Ref: DET 11/189)

Feedback form on the

Review of the Survey of Employer Use and Views of the VET System.

ACT Department of Education and Training Response.

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| Item | **Response.** |
| 1. Purpose of the survey |  |
| 1.1 From a policy perspective, interest will remain in collecting information on employers' engagement and satisfaction with the VET system.  Are there any other areas of employer’ interaction with the VET system that are of interest from a policy/research perspective? | Table 7 (Reasons for not using the VET system...) is perhaps the crucial indicator of employer engagement with the system, from which governments can form policy positions or adjustments. |
| 1.2 What information does your organisation need to better understand the relationship between employers and the VET system?  | The current survey meets our needs. Tables 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11 are most significant to this agency |
| 2. Data items currently collected in the survey |  |
| 2.1 What information do you use from the survey (if any)? | Table 11. Level of employer satisfaction with training provided by RTOs to their apprentices/trainees |
| 2.2 Do you agree with the priorities we have assigned the current data items? | Yes. |
| 2.3 Do you agree with the data items we have ranked as high priority and are proposing to retain? | Yes. Level of employer satisfaction with training provided by RTOs to their apprentices/trainees is the highest priority item for ACTDET. |
| 2.4 Do you agree with the data items we have ranked as low priority and are proposing to remove?  If not, have you used any of this information in the past?  How do you propose using this information in the future if the questions are retained? | Yes. |
| 2.5 Are there any data items we have ranked as medium priority that you believe should be removed from the survey? | No. |
| 2.6 Are there any data items you consider should be added to the survey?  How would you use this information? | No.  |
| 3. Scope and methodology |  |
| 3.1 Does the current scope satisfy your needs from a policy/research perspective? | The scope does, but the frequency of the survey does not. The ACT DET requires data on employer satisfaction with training provided to their apprentices/trainees on an annual rather than biennial basis due to its reporting/accountability requirements (see comments below). |
| 3.2 Do you favour a mixed mode approach for the survey (both telephone and online)? | Yes. |
| 3.3 What levels of accuracy do you require from the survey? | As we use the satisfaction levels of employers for one of ACTDET’s accountability measures to the ACT Department of Treasury and the ACT Legislative Assembly we need outcomes for this measure that we can be confident in. Increasing the size of the sample drawn in the ACT would improve the reliability of the ACT outcome. Due to the size of the ACT employer population, the survey sample size in the ACT is quite small, resulting is very wide 95% confidence intervals.  |
| 3.4 Would you favour a shorter survey in exchange for more accurate estimates?  | Yes. The most important item for the ACT is employer satisfaction with the overall quality of the training provided to apprentices/trainees by their registered training organisation. |
| 4. Options for 2013 onwards |  |
| * 1. What are your views on having a core set of questions (as noted in table 2 of the paper) each year with the option for including a separate module on a topic of interest?
 | ACTDET would be especially supportive of these core set questions (in Table 2) being surveyed on an annual basis.  |
| 4.2 Do you have any suggestions for issues that could be included in a question module approach, either past or present? | Frequency of the survey could be annual to assist with ACTDET’s annual reporting requirements to the ACT and Australian Governments. |