**Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development**

**17/551 - National Partnership on the Skilling Australians Fund**

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary of Impacts** |
| * The Skilling Australians Fund may have a range of economic and social impacts on the ACT. |

*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral and Green Positive.*

**Economic**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ACT Government Budget** | * Through negotiations with the Federal Government, ACT officials will seek to minimise the ACT’s financial exposure. The release of Federal Government funds from the Skilling Australian Fund will require an ACT Government co-contribution. The decision to release funds will be subject to Cabinet consideration. |
| **Productivity and innovation** | * Increased investment in vocational education and training to meet industry needs would support the ACT labour market to fill positions in established and emerging industries. |
| **Employment** | * The primary objective of the *National Partnership on the Skilling Australians Fund* (SAF NP) is to increase the number of apprenticeship and traineeship commencements. It is expected that an increase in labour force skills will result in an increase in employment opportunities for Canberrans. A skilled labour force is also likely to attract businesses and industries to the Territory. |
| **Skills and education** | * The SAF NP will considerably benefit skills and education in the ACT by providing funding for apprenticeship and traineeship programs. Secondary school students will have an increased exposure to VET through the proposed pre-apprenticeships program. |
| **Investment and economic growth** | * Increasing the skills of the ACT labour force will further establish the ACT as a prime location for businesses in established and emerging industries looking for skilled workers. |
| **Small business impact** | * Small businesses will be subject to the Skilling Australians Fund levy if they employ temporary skilled workers under a Skilled Visa. |

**Social**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Access to services** | * The primary objective of the *National Partnership on the Skilling Australians Fund* (SAF NP) is to increase the number of apprenticeship and traineeship commencements. An increase in training places will provide increased access to services for interested individuals. |
| **Gender** | * SAF funds will be used for a Women in Trades Grants Program, aiming to increase the participation of women in traditionally male dominated trades. |
| **Impacts on different age groups** | * Prospective SAF projects include increasing the skilling opportunities available to mature workers and a pre-apprenticeships program for ACT secondary school students. These programs prioritise access to vocational education and training for priority age cohorts. |
| **Indigenous and multicultural** | * Increased VET funding through the SAF will allow for increased programs targeting disadvantaged cohorts. |
| **Disadvantaged and vulnerable** | * Increased VET funding through the SAF will allow for increased programs targeting disadvantaged cohorts. |
| **Disability** | * Increased VET funding through the SAF will allow for increased programs targeting disadvantaged cohorts. |

**Environmental**

No impact.w