



PUBLIC SKILLS AUSTRALIA CONSULTATION STRATEGY

DEF Defence Training Package Development

Defence Public Affairs Qualifications

Consultation Strategy

This document outlines the consultation strategy intended for the development of training products aimed at upholding public trust and confidence within the Defence sector. The strategy involves close collaboration with stakeholders to ensure all opinions and ideas are considered. The consultation process aims to enable Public Skills Australia to create transparency and meet the needs of the Defence industry.

Objective of Consultation

Public Skills Australia will work directly with the Department of Defence and the Australian Defence College to establish collaborative partnerships aimed at enhancing the development of training products. By engaging with the Department of Defence and the Australian Defence College, Public Skills Australia seeks to leverage their specialised knowledge and experience in Defence education and training. Consultation will allow for meaningful involvement of stakeholders and further enhance the development process.

Project Summary

This project aims to review and enhance Defence Public Affairs qualifications to equip personnel with the skills necessary for effective engagement with the media, stakeholders and the public. Considering the critical role of public trust in the Defence sector, this initiative underscores the importance of transparency, reputation management and strategic communication.

Through benchmarking, collaboration with industry experts and the establishment of a Technical Committee, the initiative will update Defence Public Affairs qualifications to ensure continued alignment with industry best practices and evolving requirements within Defence.



Consultation Timeframe

Consultation is currently scheduled to take place during October 2024. Prior to this date, details of the date, time and location of specific consultation sessions, and how to access training materials will be made available on www.publicskillsaustralia.org.au.

Stakeholder Identification

Key stakeholders may be drawn from:

- Defence Public Affairs Personnel – Army, Navy, Air Force and APS.
- Defence National Skills Framework (Education Experts)
- Defence Registered Training Organisation (RTO)
- Government agencies
- The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- State Training Authorities & Senior Responsible Officers (SROs)
- Employee organisations, such as Defence Welfare Association

For the full list organisations that have been identified for targeted consultation, refer to **Appendix A: Organisations Targeted for Consultations**.

Consultation Mechanisms

Public Skills Australia is dedicated to conducting thorough consultations with stakeholders to ensure their perspectives, concerns and insights are carefully incorporated into the development process. During the consultation process, a meticulous consultation log will be maintained. Noting security limitations around publishing details of Australian Defence Force personnel, where necessary, a summary of members' feedback may be required. The consultation log will detail the management of feedback, issues, and the attainment of consensus through the project. In instances where consensus cannot be achieved, the Public Skills Australia Alternative Dispute Resolution policy will be invoked. Public Skills Australia will conduct a range of consultation initiatives to ensure the involvement and engagement of diverse stakeholders.

This will include consultation activities/methods such as:

- Online information sessions to provide information on draft training products to interested parties and facilitate feedback gathering.



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- Consultation with established Public Skills Australia network groups to gather the perspectives of diverse communities including First Nations peoples, women and culturally and linguistically diverse groups.
- Engagement with Public Skills Australia subcommittees to present community and network consultation feedback on training products.
- Engagement with State and Territory Training Authorities.



Appendix A: Organisations for Targeted Consultations

Stakeholder	Organisation	Coverage
Government Agency	Department of Defence	National
Employee Organisation	Defence Force Welfare Association	National
Government Agency	Department of Defence Navy, Army, Air Force and Defence Australian Public Service	National