

High-Vis Army Working Group

Meeting Communique – 9 April 2025

Attendees: Stuart Collins (HIA), David Clerk (MBT), Andrew Winch (CCF), Ben Shaw (NECA), Peta Sugden (Skills Tasmania), Andrew Harris (Skills Tasmania), Nick Connolly (Skills Tasmania), Ingrid Anderson (Skills Tasmania).

Apologies: Martin Blake (Keystone), Angela Bennet (MPAT)

Overview

The High-Vis Army Program Working Group meets biannually. The priority for this working group is to collaborate with each other over training and workforce development. This meeting acknowledged that the members of the High-Vis Army (HVA) meet frequently at various meetings and noted the intent to consider streamlining the future structure of meetings.

Current and future project status

Skills Tasmania gave an overview of the status of the payments of each of the current HVA grants.

- Final Instalments pending for each project.

Each HVA member gave an overview on the current status of their round 1 grants and progress towards round 2 project plans.

Civil Contractors Federation Tasmania

- School visits and career expos continuing and Agfest representation is on track
- Heights and confined spaces training trailer ready at the end of May 2025
- Glenorchy jobs hub expo attendance – approx. 1200 attendees
- Simulator is booked continuously and working as expected as an attraction piece.
- Job ready program participants are moving into work experience phase. Currently looking to advertise for the next intake in Burnie.
- CCF reported that the Project Plan is underway for Round 2 of HVA.

Master Builders Tasmania

- MBT reported that the Cambridge training centre is built
- The Group Training Organisation is moving forward
- First of two indigenous focused programs scheduled — 12 participants in each
- MBT reported that the Project Plan is underway for Round 2 of High-Vis Army

Housing Industry Association

- HIA are continuing to work towards their targets with apprentice commencements
- Supporting host businesses and wrap around for apprentices i.e. financial literacy module.
- 25 hosts have attended industry forums on attracting and supporting apprentices.
- Marketing campaign to attract more apprentices and host trainers.
- HIA reported that the Project Plan is underway for Round 2 of High-Vis Army

National Electrical Contractors Association

- Project Officer engaged to support the electrical sector, develop workforce plan and mapping of skills gaps
- Round 2 funding which has employed an electrician as a trainer. The training trailer is underway and is due to launch early 2026.
- Looking at supporting the new licencing model and associated training for air-conditioning sector.

Master Plumbers' Association of Tasmania (update provided by Skills Tasmania)

- MPAT have recruited a position to sit within TasTAFE and support the recruitment and development of plumbing trainers and assessors. This person will commence on 28 April 2025.

Reporting

- Revised reporting requirements were discussed, and draft reporting schedule was tabled at the meeting for discussion.
- New reporting will focus on specific numbers of enrolments, project roll out, total training places etc, a split between pre-employment programs and accredited programs and overall, more detail to give a wider view of the reach and impact of the projects.
- Capturing pathway program data on how many successes – how many were placed into industry etc. (This was agreed to be added to the reporting)

The next meeting of the High-Vis Army Working Group will be advised.