Jeremy Rockliff, Minister for Education and Training

Communique

Future Tasmanian Education Workforce Round Table

The first meeting of the future Tasmanian Education Workforce round table was held on 19th April 2018. The round table was convened by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Training; Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP.

Education Workforce Stakeholders present included:

Vice Chancellor, University of Tasmania; Professor Rufus Black

Secretary, Tasmanian Department of Education; Tim Bullard

President, Australian Education Union Tasmania; Helen Richardson

Director, Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment; Professor Natalie Brown

Registrar, Teachers Registration Board Tasmania; Lee Rayner

President, Tasmanian Principals Association; Malcolm Elliott

The roundtable agreed that the government commitment to increase the teaching workforce by 250 full time equivalent teachers provides an unprecedented opportunity to shape the education workforce to maximise outcomes for our learners.

Outcomes of the round table included:

Agreement that a high quality teaching workforce is paramount in improving educational outcomes in Tasmania and should be the focus of teacher training, recruitment and ongoing professional development.
Agreement that the definition of quality is multidimensional and that quality can be created and improved in many different ways.

Agreement that different approaches to training and recruitment (within nationally agreed standards) are required to meet the goal of employing 250 additional teachers.

Agreement that short term and longer term solutions would be required given that the first tranche of additional teachers would be employed after the 2018 budget.

A commitment that the Department of Education will work collaboratively with the University of Tasmania on a short term recruitment strategy, aligned with government policy.

A commitment to meet again, to discuss the short term strategy and longer term solutions within a 6 week period.

Contact: Rebecca Ellston
Phone: 0428 374 122