



**2017-18 Plan**      **Our Vision:** A highly regarded, industry centred and inclusive apprenticeship system.  
**Our Mission:** To support members by providing a unified voice to government and industry to enhance a strong and viable apprenticeship support system.

- Key objectives**
1. An apprenticeship system **highly regarded** by all stakeholders because it provides;
    - A good return on investment for employers and apprentices
    - Achieves a high take up of apprenticeships
    - Best practice procurement of support services by government
    - A professional support services workforce
    - Strong profile with the community
    - High completion rates
    - Is flexible
    - Is easy to use
  2. An **Industry centred** apprenticeship system because it;
    - Has a high level of engagement by employers
    - Provides the skills required for the participating business and the wider economy
    - Provides support services that meet industry and business needs
    - Achieves the best fit between the employer and the employee
    - Is flexible
    - Is easy to use
  3. An **Inclusive** apprenticeship system because it;
    - Addresses the foundation skills of apprentices
    - Provides high quality formal training
    - A contemporary employment experience
    - Provides relevant and transferable skills learned on the job
    - Provides access for equity groups
    - Achieves a best fit between the employee and employer
    - Provides support services that meet apprentices needs
    - Facilitates a high take up of apprenticeships
    - Is easy to use

Strategies	Activities	Outcomes for 2017-18
<b>Policy Dialogue</b>	Effectively lobby the government and department to ensure our vision for the apprenticeship system is reflected in policy. Improve the recognition by government of the value of the current services offered by our members. Provide case studies that highlight best practice and reinforce our clearly articulated policy positions	The AASN contract is rolled over with improved terms of trade for Network Providers The updated AASN contract builds on key core strengths of the model identified by Network Providers The Association's policy positions are developed and codified. Case studies exemplify the policy positions
<b>Contract Advocacy</b>	Effectively lobby the government and department to ensure fair, balanced and viable support services contracts. Hold regular meetings with the government and department to provide feedback on the effective operation of AASN Undertake campaigns to improve the terms of trade of support service contracts	AAMS related fee reductions are delayed until the new system demonstrates improved efficiencies Clear advocacy of the agreed policy positions to the Minister, Department and other stakeholders Coordinate member feedback about AAMS implementation and mooted contract changes
<b>Market Intelligence and Research</b>	Undertake regular member research about contractual issues Use State Reference Groups to gather input about the effective operation of the support services market Create regular feedback mechanisms through Association updates	Conduct relevant and timely research and share results to inform Association policy development Attend reference group meetings and communicate ideas and outcomes Further develop the website to include a members access blog and regular press releases
<b>Effective Membership Services</b>	Encourage all contract holders to be financial members of the Association Launch the Association's Business Plan at the Annual AASN Forum Undertake research about members other needs and source consultants that can assist with relevant issues Raise the profile of the Association with key stakeholders	New membership models are explored to achieve a whole of network lobbying position The Association and the department codevelop the agenda for the AASN Forum Service contractors identified and research undertaken as required Awareness is built that Network Providers represent 100% of the apprenticeship market
<b>Communication and Stakeholder Liaison</b>	Keep members regularly informed on policy developments, member research and feedback Keep apprenticeship issues front of mind in policy dialogue about wider Vocational Education and Training reform The Association will network with other Industry Associations and apprenticeship stakeholders to provide a unified voice to government on common issues of concern	The Association website is used as the hub for member communication The Executive Officer plays an influential role on broader VET issues Joint position papers and campaigns with other peak agencies reinforce Association policy