



COMMUNIQUE COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION MEETING 25 October 2023

On 25 October 2023, the Hon Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education, the Hon Clare O’Neil MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Cyber Security, and the Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, met with the Council for International Education (Council) to consider the Nixon Review recommendations and upcoming Migration Strategy.

Chaired by Minister Clare, members discussed potential changes to visa settings and the migration pipeline for students. Members also noted the importance of promoting Australia as an attractive destination for the best and brightest students.

Minister O’Neil emphasised the significance of international students to Australia’s migration system and noted the shared goal of the government and sector to provide quality educational outcomes in a sustainable way. All Ministers acknowledged the importance of an international education sector founded on integrity and ensuring there are clear and appropriate visa pathways. Minister O’Neil discussed her desire for a system with clear pathways, both for graduates of our education system with the skills needed for Australia’s economy leading to permanent residency, and for those returning to make a contribution in their home country.

Minister Giles reflected on the significant policy decisions under consideration and the importance of considering whole-of-economy imperatives. Ministers noted the importance of the migration system and the relationship between Australia’s skills needs and migration. Ministers also acknowledged the valuable opportunity to consult with the Council, and the role the Council plays in consolidating views of the sector to provide feedback on policy objectives, ensuring alignment across government and the sector.

The Council welcomed the preliminary work towards the Migration Strategy and noted work across agencies on Government reform processes.

The next Council meeting is expected to take place in late November 2023.