



Dr Denis Mootz  
President  
The Professional Teachers' Council NSW  
PO Box 699  
LIDCOMBE NSW 1825

Our reference: CEO/21/2

Dear Dr Mootz

Thank you for your response to the previous letter from Professor Shergold, Chair of the NESA Board, regarding the changes to the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) process for endorsing professional development (PD) providers and their courses. Professor Shergold has asked that I reply on his behalf.

Under the Policy the NSW Department of Education, Catholic Schools NSW and the Catholic Dioceses, and the Association of Independent Schools NSW are authorised to assess and accredit courses they deliver in the identified priority areas, on NESA's behalf. However, this is not to be confused with the provisions of the former *Endorsement of Professional Development Providers and Courses Policy* whereby Category 2 providers were given reign to develop and upload their own PD courses within their Scope of Endorsement without any significant regulatory oversight by NESA. NESA's auditing role under the former policy focussed on the renewal of endorsement towards the end of the five-year endorsement period.

In contrast, Sections 4.1.1 and 9.1.1 of the new Policy, place new additional requirements on these Authorised Providers and Sections 9.2 and 10.1 describe a strengthened role for NESA in monitoring and auditing the quality of all accredited courses, including those accredited by Authorised Providers, within a reduced two-year accreditation period. It's in this way that I see NESA having regulatory oversight of all accredited PD courses and the accreditation decisions that Authorised Providers make.

Re-establishing the PTC and any other PD providers, other than the Authorised Providers, with the authority to self-accredit its own PD courses as NESA accredited is currently not possible under the provisions of the new *NESA Accreditation of Professional Development Courses Policy* (the Policy).

I reaffirm my earlier commitment, and that recently made by John Healey, Director, Initial Teacher Education & Accreditation at a recent meeting of the PTC Executive, to continued liaison with the PTC over the finalisation of draft criteria for course accreditation and plans to support the implementation of the new Policy.

If you wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please contact John Healey on 0467 794 520 or email at [john.healey@nesa.nsw.edu.au](mailto:john.healey@nesa.nsw.edu.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Martin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Martin  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
3/ 3/ 2021