# Shearing Contractors Association of Australia

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## Background

The Shearing Contractors Association of Australia (SCAA) has represented the interests and needs of those who contractors who employ the majority of the nation’s shearers around the country, for more than 90 years.

## The SCAA’s main concerns are:

1. to stay engagement with the Review process
2. More importantly, over recent years, the shearing industry has seen the status of shearing labour-supply asynchronous with the Department of Education Skills and Employment’s status for shearing industry workers i.e. the rating of ‘shortage’ will be the industry’s ‘Status’  when in reality there is a reasonable number of workers available and then the reverse also holds true, where there is a short supply of labour but this ‘Status’ is showing ‘no shortage’.

The primary reason for this occurring, appears to be the data collection methodology of labour supply for the industry. That said, we see that in the *Review of the Australian Apprenticeships National Skills Needs List - Methodology Discussion Paper*, our concerns have been addressed in being identified in the ‘Key Messages’ and the ‘Design principles’ (Transparent yet flexible) of any future methodology.

## Summary

* Thank you for your flexible approach to our organisation missing your submission deadline.
* In general, the SCAA does not have any additional points to add, that have not already been addressed in the discussion paper.
* Again, we would appreciate being part of the next stages of the  process

Regards

Secretary

Shearing Contractors Association of Australia