NEW DEET CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED

A leading educational administrator from Western Australia has been appointed the new Chief Executive of the Department of Employment, Education, and Training.

Ms Margaret Banks comes to the Territory from the role of Deputy Director General in Western Australia.

“It is pleasing that we have attracted someone of the calibre and experience of Ms Banks to this crucial role – particularly someone with such a strong passion for education and a commitment to contributing to the future of the Territory,” Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said today.

In her previous role, Ms Banks was responsible for the operation of 820 schools across Western Australia and had direct responsibility for Student Services and Isolated and Distance Education.

She also held senior positions in both policy and operational areas, including Superintendent: Technology and Enterprise, and Senior Curriculum Officer: Post Compulsory Schooling, National Curriculum and Literacy.

In addition to her 18 years with the Department of Education and Training, Ms Banks has held positions as Lecturer, Western Australian Institute of Technology (now Curtin University); Advisor, University of South Pacific, Fiji; and Executive Officer, Curriculum Council where she oversaw the writing of the Western Australian Curriculum Framework for all schools.

Ms Banks has a broad range of community interests including the Australian Children’s Television Foundation and membership of the Regional Selection Panel for the Churchill Fellowship.

Educated in WA, Ms Banks began her career there as a Home Economics teacher, followed by two years teaching in London. She also spent several years combining further study, family and commercial business.

Ms Banks takes up her new role on 31 October 2005.

(Photo of Margaret Banks attached with email version)

Contact: Mary Fall  0401 119 770