

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
23 October 2013

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)

TOPIC: Sand Goanna Distance Training College

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 October 2014, page 66)

QUESTION No.: SI-33

Senator KIM CARR: Thank you very much, if you could take that on notice. Are you familiar with the operations of Sand Goanna, a distance training college?

Mr Robinson: I do not think we have got that. Which one was it?

Senator KIM CARR: Sand Goanna is the way it is described to me as. If you would like to take that one on notice?

Mr Robinson: It is a peculiar name for a college, I am sure I would have remembered it. I may have to take that one on notice as well. We may well be undertaking action against some of these organisation; I just do not have them all at hand.

Senator KIM CARR: This is where business name and information has been misappropriated by other companies. That is essentially the claim made there.

Mr Robinson: We will check that out for you and get back to you.

Senator KIM CARR: There was another company called Aussia, in the childcare industry.

Mr Robinson: That was the one that was mentioned just before, is it not?

Senator KIM CARR: Have you dealt with that?

Mr Robinson: We have, I think. Let me just check. I am not sure. We are coming back on that one too, I think.

ANSWER

Sand Goanna

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) conducted an audit of Sand Goanna relating to a change of scope application on 19-20 July 2012. Some minor non-compliances were identified at this audit, following an opportunity to provide rectification evidence, the RTO was able to demonstrate compliance. The change of scope application was subsequently approved.

ASQA has received four complaints relating to the RTO. Three of these complaints have now been closed (two were not in ASQA's jurisdiction and one had not demonstrated that the RTOs internal complaints process had been exhausted). ASQA is currently investigating a complaint against the RTO.

Aussia

ASQA is currently investigating Registered Training Organisation (RTO) Access Group Training Ltd (RTO No.90867) which has been linked to Aussia, this investigation commenced on 6 October 2014. Aussia is not a RTO and ASQA is currently investigating if they are purporting to be an RTO (which would be a breach of the NVETR Act) or if they were working on behalf of Access Group Training. Current arrangements make it difficult for ASQA to take action against non-RTOs acting as brokers for RTOs. The commencement of new standards for RTOs from 1 April 2015 (for existing RTOs) will strengthen ASQA's regulatory oversight in this regard.