

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000025

Senator Cameron, Doug asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 19

Audit targets for compliance program

Question

Senator CAMERON: This is a departmental audit; you do not want to get into the details of a departmental audit against this specific RTO?

Dr Banerjee: I was making the point that previously in the conversation we have been talking about student numbers particularly. There has been a great deal of concern about valid student enrolments and whether or not some RTOs have had, in your phrase, phantom student enrolments. That has been a matter of grave concern to the department and we have launched a range of audits against a range of different providers on that issue.

Senator CAMERON: The allegations of phantom student enrolments for this company go back to 28 February 2015. What did the department do on 28 February 2015? Did you know about it prior to that date?

Dr Banerjee: I will take that on notice, Senator.

Answer

On 28 February 2015, the Department of Education and Training was aware MHM was one of the providers to be audited by ASQA as part of the VET FEE-HELP audit project. This project was announced by Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, former Assistant Minister for Education and Training, on 24 February 2015.

MHM was audited by ASQA in April 2015 under this project. Although found compliant at the end of the audit, MHM was re-audited by ASQA in October 2016.