

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Agency: ASQA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000292

Senator Carr, Kim asked on 03 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 43

ASQA: VET FEE-HELP

Question

Senator KIM CARR: Is it the case that they receive no funding support at all from the Commonwealth?

Senator Birmingham: As to whether each of those RTOs has VET FEE-HELP?

Senator KIM CARR: Yes.

Senator Birmingham: We can attempt to come back to you on that.

Senator KIM CARR: Is it the case that, for instance, Aspin, which you did audit, was undertaking general education programs for adults? Is that the case?

Mr Robinson: I will have to take that on notice. That could be the case. That would not be the case—

CHAIR: Are you taking that on notice?

Mr Robinson: Yes.

Senator KIM CARR: Is it the case that Bawm undertook to take over the work of Aspin's liabilities?

Mr Robinson: I am not aware of that, but I will take that on notice as well.

Answer

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has provided the following response.

- Aspin was registered to deliver Certificate level I, II and III courses in General Education for Adults from 6 December 2013 when it was acquired by Vocation Limited, until 17 December 2014.
- On 11 September 2014, Aspin reported to ASQA that it had issued 3605 qualifications in the past year and had 685 current students in Certificate II in General Education for Adults. It also reported that it had not issued qualifications and had no current students in Certificates I and III.
- Aspin delivered Certificate II in General Education for Adults training under Victorian Training Guarantee contractual funding arrangements. Aspin was never approved to deliver training to learners under VET FEE-HELP arrangements.
- Training and Development Australia is the only remaining Vocation-owned RTO that is approved to enrol learners under VET FEE-HELP loan arrangements.
- Two former Vocation-owned RTOs are approved for VET FEE-HELP; Australian College of Applied Education and Australian College of Natural Medicine, but both have recently been sold to new owners.
- ASQA has no record indicating BAWM is or would be undertaking Aspin's liabilities.