

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

#### **Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004051**

**Senator McKenzie asked on 02 June 2017 on proof Hansard page 112**

#### **Question**

##### **Union Education Foundation role**

Senator CAMERON: Are there any other employer organisations that receive a grant?

Ms Parker: No, not under those. The Productivity Education and Training Fund related to just those three.

CHAIR: Do we know if the union education foundation has submitted any information to ASIC or acquitted its funds? I just do not have a lot of information about what it does. I would have assumed that unions have an educative role within their own organisation rather than having to have a separate foundation. Can you explain the relationship?

Ms Parker: No, only that we mentioned before that it is the training arm that trains unionists, basically.

Mr Edwards: It is a trust. All I have here, I am afraid, is that it is a trust that is governed by a board that comprises the ACTU, trade union officials and others with an employer background.

CHAIR: So will there be more information about its structure once we look at the contracts that I have asked for on notice?

Mr Edwards: That will not explain the structure of the trust.

Ms Parker: We can take it on notice and get back to you.

CHAIR: Yes, could you. Thank you.

Senator PATERSON: This will mainly apply to—

CHAIR: To publicly. Exactly. Annual reports.

Ms Parker: We can also find out for you. I am not aware of the answer.

Senator MARSHALL: That would be good.

Senator PATERSON: If they are, when they have, when they most recently have.

Ms Parker: Sure.

#### **Answer**

The Union Education Foundation (ABN 56 469 208 528) (TUEF) is a charitable trust, established and domiciled in Australia. Its purpose is to facilitate, co-ordinate and support union education to members of the public, union members, trade unions and union organisations. It also offers training courses for workplace representatives throughout Australia.

The trustee of the trust is The Union Education Foundation Limited (ACN 098 400 134), a company limited by guarantee. The directors of the company include senior ACTU and trade union officials and a former manager at the Australian Industry Group.

TUEF acquits the funding received under the Productivity Education and Training Fund in accordance with the terms of the funding agreement with the Department. This includes six-monthly and end of project financial acquittals, and the submission and review of annual milestone and deliverable plans.

The trust is registered at the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission. Its financial reports are publicly available from the Commission's website: [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au).

The trustee is an Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) listed company limited by guarantee. Financial statements for the entity are not available from the ASIC website.