QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/066) - SVP provider eligibility - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 134) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: On August 17, the Victorian government cancelled a training contract for three training colleges: imperial college, management institute of Victoria and MWT Institute. Again, we have issues concerning fraudulent claiming for training which was never undertaken, unauthorised contracting and illegal offer of incentives. I am told that imperial college was also an SVP provider. Do you have any information on that college?

Mr Wilden: I do not have a list of the current SVP providers with me, so we will take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: I was wondering if you could tell me how many students they brought through using their SVP status?

Mr Manthorpe: We will take that on notice too.

Senator KIM CARR: And could you tell me when they were invited to apply, when they actually applied, when they were admitted to the SVP list and when they were assessed to be eligible? Did regulatory or contractual action by state or Commonwealth authorities have any impact on their SVP provider eligibility? When did you find out that they were crook? Mr Wilden: We will come back with all that information.

Answer:

The Imperial College of Australia (BJSB Pty Ltd) was initially invited to apply to access streamlined visa processing arrangements in July 2014 and their application was deferred. The Imperial College of Australia was found to meet the requirements and entered into streamlined visa processing arrangements on 1 July 2015.

The Imperial College of Australia met the requirements to enter into the arrangements outlined in the guidelines at <u>www.border.gov.au/Busi/Educ/Stre.</u>

From 1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015, Departmental data showed six applications were processed under the streamlined visa processing arrangements for The Imperial College of Australia.

The action taken by the Victorian Government was in relation to domestic students only. It would be inappropriate to comment further given ongoing investigations by the Australian Skills Quality Authority.