AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Vocational Education and Training for the Green Army Program

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Kim Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-147

With regard to the Green Army:

1. Have you had any discussions with the Environment Department or Department of Social Security on the provision of vocational education and training for participants of the Green Army program?

2. Does the Department have any data which scopes the available the number of RTOs accredited to deliver the identified training?

3. Is it likely there would be Australia-wide coverage?

4. In the context of a program that is likely to have large numbers of small teams of only nine participants, spread across remote, rural and urban areas, how would training and assessment be delivered in such a scheme?

ANSWER

1. Yes, the department has been involved in discussions with the Department of the Environment.

2. The official National Register on vocational education and training in Australia is the training.gov.au website, which provides publically available information on registered training organisations (RTOs) that are accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) to deliver specific qualifications. It is possible to search for RTOs in each state or territory that deliver specific qualifications or Skill Sets for specific activities, for example, for conservation or construction.

3. This is a matter for the Environment Minister.

4. This is a matter for the Environment Minister. This department, however, is working with the Department of Environment and we understand the Green Army program Service Provider(s) will negotiate an individual training plan with each participant they recruit as part of the Participant Agreement, which will consider the individuals' skills needs and the skills required to fulfil the project. The Service Provider(s) will then identify which RTOs in the local region are available to provide this training.