

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
2-3 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Closing Skills Programmes

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 June 2014, page 82)

QUESTION NO.: BI- 42

Senator CARR: What was the basis for deciding which skills programs would be abolished?

Ms Beauchamp: As you would appreciate, that is part of the decision-making process through the budget and cabinet.

Senator CARR: Yes, but what are the criteria you use for the axing of these 10 programs?

Senator Ronaldson: You have just had your answer to that, Senator.

Senator CARR: What was the reason?

Senator Ronaldson: You have just had your answer. The secretary said before that this is part of the government decision-making process, and your second question was the same as the first.

Senator CARR: How many of those programs were subject to independent review before they were axed?

Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator CARR: If there were independent reviews, can we have a look at the reports?

Ms Beauchamp: Of course, that would be a decision for the minister and the government.

Senator CARR: Of course it would be, but I have asked a separate question: if there are independent evaluation reports, can we have access to them?

Senator Ronaldson: That is part of the full decision-making process. We will take on notice consideration of whether they may or may not be provided.

ANSWER

Three programmes were subject to independent review:

- Australian Apprenticeships Mentoring Programme
- Australian Apprenticeships Access Programme
- Workplace English Language and Literacy Programme

The review of the Australian Apprenticeships Mentoring Programme is currently being considered for public release by the Government.

The review of the Australian Apprenticeships Access Programme is available at:

www.industry.gov.au/skills/ClosedProgrammes/AustralianApprenticeshipsAccessProgram/Pages/Publications.aspx.

The review of the Workplace English Language and Literacy Programme is available at:

www.industry.gov.au/skills/ClosedProgrammes/WorkplaceEnglishLanguageAndLiteracy/Pages/WELLEvaluation.aspx.