

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Skills and Training**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000089**

Senator Cameron, Doug asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 132

***File notes on discussions***

**Question**

Mr Hart: I cannot recall that they specifically raised concern. It was more a discussion that we had a new program and there was a new arrangement for which courses could attract the subsidy—what was the process for which courses could be made eligible? And they were aware that there would be fewer arts courses that received the subsidy under VET student loans than under VET FEE-HELP.

Senator CAMERON: On notice, can you provide any file notes about these conversations?

Mr Hart: Yes, I can do that.

Senator CAMERON: Were there formal meetings? Mr Hart: Not formal meetings. It was by telephone.

Senator CAMERON: Could you provide the file notes—

Mr Hart: If there are file notes available, then we can provide them.

**Answer**

Officials from the Department of Education and Training had a telephone conversation with officials from the Department of Communications and the Arts on 18 October 2016 regarding the new VET Student Loans program, with a focus on the eligible course list. Given the informal nature of the discussion, which did not inform a specific decision, no file note was made.