EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.2 – New Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E046_05

Senator Marshall asked on 3 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 6.

Question:

Has the Department recovered any fee-for-service from New Apprenticeships Centres (NACs) for commencements under Certificate III in Information Technology (Software Applications) in Victoria that were subsequently cancelled as a result of the review undertaken?

Answer:

Recovery of Fee-for-Service from New Apprenticeships Centres

As a result of the review of the appropriateness of the Certificate III in Information Technology (Software Applications) to employers and New Apprentices in Victoria, a number of records were cancelled by the Victorian Office of Training and Tertiary Education (OTTE). These cancellations fall into two categories. Firstly, where the contract of training was awaiting approval from OTTE, and secondly where the contract of training had already been approved.

- 1) Where the contract of training was awaiting approval from OTTE, no Fee-for-Service has been paid. For NACs to receive Fee-for-Service the contract of training must be approved by the State Training Authority. As in these cases no Fee-for-Service has been paid, none has been recovered.
- 2) Where the contract of training had been approved by OTTE, DEST has recovered some \$15,000 in Fee-for-Service from NACs. These recoveries were for a variety of reasons, but have occurred mostly where the cancellation date, determined by OTTE, pre-dates a contact visit for which the NAC claimed a service fee. For the commencement service fee, DEST is satisfied that NACs have met their obligations under the New Apprenticeships Support Services contract requirements. As a result, Fee-for-Services have not been recovered in these instances.