

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

**Outcome:** 3  
**Output Group:** 3.3 – AEI Group

#### DEST Question No. E157\_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### Question:

- (a) Have you been made aware, by National ELT Accreditation Scheme (NEAS), that it has withdrawn the accreditation of a college in South Australia – in December 2003?
- (b) Are you aware that this college offered only one course – an English language course?
- (c) Did you de-register such a provider from the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) in December 2003? Are you aware that this provider is still registered CRICOS? Why? Are your processes watertight? Or can colleges slip through the net?

#### Answer:

*Withdrawn the accreditation of a college in South Australia*

- (a) The Department received advice from NEAS that on 5 December 2003 that endorsement of Buckingham College to provide English for English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) courses was withdrawn.
- (b) Buckingham College of English has 17 courses registered on CRICOS, all of which are ELICOS courses.
- (c) Buckingham College of English (the College) was not de-registered in December 2003. The South Australian Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (SA DFEEST) is currently reviewing the registration of the College based on the notification from NEAS that endorsement has been withdrawn.

DEST is monitoring the situation and remains in communication with the SA DFEEST regarding this provider. The College will remain registered on CRICOS until advice is received from DFEEST that the provider has ceased to be an approved provider for that State or DEST otherwise establishes that there has been a breach of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (the Act) or the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (National Code).

A provider's registration for a course for a State is automatically cancelled by force of section 91 of the Act if the provider is deemed by the designated authority for the State as ceasing to be an approved provider for that course for that State. In such circumstances, DEST takes action under section 91 of the Act as soon as a schedule to cancel the provider's registration is received from the designated authority. There is no record of a provider continuing as a registered provider on CRICOS where it has ceased to be an approved provider for a State.