

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1

**Output Group:** 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with Special Needs

#### **DEST Question No. E279\_07**

Senator Wong asked on 1 June 2006, EWRE Hansard page 103.

#### **Question:**

TVI Contract Variations.

1. Did NSDC Pty Ltd specifically request a variation to its contract in relation to Victoria and Queensland, and if so, on what grounds?
2. Can you confirm that the broker administration component payments in the contracts with NSDC Pty Ltd were varied?
3. Did the variations to NSDC go beyond the time frame of the contract and also extend to variation of the broker administration component payments?
4. I would like to know what the variations were and why they were made. I would also like to know, and perhaps you can tell me, this: did DEST include a new broker administration payment in NSDC's Queensland contract of the amount of around \$52,000?
5. Can you tell me whether that payment was made—if you could confirm that—to other brokers?
6. Did DEST include a new broker promotion payment in NSDC's Victorian contract?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative Contract Variations*

1. No, NSDC Pty Ltd did not specifically request variations to its contracts in relation to Victoria and Queensland.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. The contract variations were to extend the timeframe for delivery of the pilot TVI in Victoria and Queensland. In these States, the Victorian and Queensland Governments failed to act in accordance with a MCEETYA resolution in May 2005 (Item 6, Part (iii) (c)), under which States and Territories agreed to provide information about the pilot TVI directly to parents of eligible children where possible, and to school principals where not. The contract variation included an additional broker administration payment amount of \$52,000 (GST inclusive).
5. Yes. Additional administration payments were made to some other brokers as a result of their contract variations.
6. Yes.