

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.2 – Australian Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E618_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

“Refers to DEST Question No E905_06”.
Senator Wong provided in writing on 15 February 2006.

“Refers to DEST Question No E447_06”.
Senator Wong asked on 2 November 2005, EWRE Hansard page 80.

“Refers to DEST Question No E448_05”.
Senator Wong asked on 2 November 2005, EWRE Hansard page 80.

“Refers to DEST Question No E450_05”.
Senator Wong asked on 2 November 2005, EWRE Hansard page 80.

Questions:

In answer to previous questions, DEST revealed that ACCI was engaged on a contract valued at \$100,000 for a project to address industrial relations barriers to the take-up of New Apprenticeships.

- a) Has the report been completed?
- b) What were the main findings?
- c) When will the report be made publicly available?
- d) Can a copy be provided to the Committee?
- e) Has the Department awarded ACCI any further contracts to provide comment, analysis or evaluation on any other aspects of apprenticeship policy?
- f) If so please provide details of each contract, including value, length, reporting date, and on what basis the tender was awarded.

Answers:

ACCI Project – Addressing Industrial Relations Barriers to the Take-up of Australian Apprenticeships

- a) Yes. ACCI submitted its final project report in August 2006, after providing interim reports in December 2005 and March 2006.
- b) ACCI researched the industrial relations barriers to the take up of Australian Apprenticeships for adult apprentices and in relation to the take up of part-time and Australian School-based Apprenticeships. ACCI developed a submission to the Award Review Taskforce on the Rationalisation of Award Wage and Classification Structures, in relation to Australian School-based and part-time Apprenticeships. ACCI also developed a submission regarding national training wage arrangements for the Senate Employment Workplace Relations Legislation and Education Committee’s inquiry into the *Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill*

2005. The final report includes ACCI's preferred model for the safety net of training wages to be used in the absence of appropriate arrangements in awards.

- c) The final report is publicly available by request. Requests should be submitted to:
 - Director
 - Industry Liaison Section
 - (Location 766)
 - GPO Box 9880
 - Canberra ACT 2601
- d) Yes. A copy is attached. The report was produced as an internal working document to assist DEST to develop an understanding of the industrial relations barriers to the take-up of the full range of Australian Apprenticeships and to help ACCI address the barriers faced by industry. The report does not represent the views of DEST or the Australian Government.
- e) No.
- f) Not applicable.