

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding and Performance Branch

DEST Question No. E630_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

Following the passage of the new industrial relations requirements in the Skilling Australia's Workforce Act:

- a) How many TAFE staff are now on AWAs?
- b) Are all TAFEs complying with the Commonwealth's new requirement that they offer AWAs to all staff?

Answer:

- a) Under the *Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005* States and Territories are required to introduce more flexible working arrangements by offering Australian Workplace Agreements to all TAFE staff and in cases where Australian Workplace Agreements are not able to be offered, States and Territories must offer individual agreements as outlined in section 12 (1) (b).
- b) State and Territory education and training departments are also required to report on progress against all legislative requirements, including the offering of AWAs, in their annual VTE Plans. These reports are expected in the first quarter of 2007.