

TAFE COLLEGES

**69. Mr F.M. LOGAN to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:**

I have a supplementary question. In the reform project report the minister claims that these changes will save \$23 million a year. Can she guarantee that all that money will stay in the TAFE system given the consistent cuts the Liberals have made to training year after year, since 2009?

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:**

The member is incorrect. We have not been making cuts to training year after year.

**Mr F.M. Logan:** Yes, you have.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** No—100 per cent wrong.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cockburn!

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Just today, I announced a \$46.5 million investment in training in the member for Bateman's electorate, which is a brand-new campus. That hardly sounds like a cut to me. The opposition cannot cope with the fact that the only —

**Mr D.J. Kelly** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Bassendean, I call you to order for the second time. We are wasting time, members.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** The only commitment and the only policy initiative coming from that side of the house to do with training is twofold. It is staying wedded to a failed priority industry program that was supposed to result in industry taking a greater stake in training. It failed. The Office of the Auditor General said it was a complete failure and an administratively impossible scheme.

*Point of Order*

**Mrs M.H. ROBERTS:** Mr Speaker, you constantly remind us that supplementary questions need to be brief and to the point, which our member's question was. He simply asked whether all that money—the \$23 million—would stay within the TAFE sector. That is what we want the answer to.

**The SPEAKER:** Point of order taken. Quick answer, thank you; is it staying in the system?

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** They have two policies: a commitment to a failed priority start program —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Come back to the answer—a quick answer, thank you.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** The member for Cockburn failed to point out that this year fees —

**Ms S.F. McGurk** interjected.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** I am addressing the question of fee increases.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I think what the member for Cockburn asked was: the cuts that you stated—will all that money stay in the system? That was the question, so just address that.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Notwithstanding that, fees were held at TAFE courses at four per cent—they were held at four per cent this year. The money is staying in the sector.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, I have made a ruling now that you are to answer that part of the question. Just answer that part of the question, please.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Mr Speaker, every time I try to answer the question, I am drowned out by the cacophony over there.

Yes, the money is staying in the sector.

Several members interjected.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** It is highly amusing that just a couple of weeks after we announced our TAFE Choices campaign, the only other policy initiative coming out of the Leader of the Opposition's mouth was, "Let's change the name back to TAFE", so clearly our advertising campaign worked. We put TAFE back in the mouth of the Leader of the Opposition, so let us hear his policy.

**Extract from *Hansard***

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Mr Fran Logan; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Speaker

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Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Have you finished the answer?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** Yes.