

EDUCATION AND TRAINING — PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

1388. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the answer to question on notice No. 752 regarding the Participation Program, and I ask:

- (a) were there more or fewer students requesting assistance than the number contracted for;
- (b) how does the department assess the Participation Program without access to information from the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) about the number of case managers; and
- (c) what information about Participation Program delivery at RTOs does the Department hold?

**Hon Sue Ellery replied:**

- (a) All compliant requests from RTOs for training places in the Participation-Equity program were supported by the Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) in the 2016 calendar year.
- (b) DTWD assesses the Participation Equity program through a set of procurement and contract management processes. RTOs must submit a Delivery and Support Services (DASS) plan as a part of their request for qualifications and places. The DASS outlines the training plan, duration of training and associated support services, provided to students as part of the training. Support services may include the provision of mentors and/or other staff support to assist in student retention and completion.
- (c) DTWD holds information regarding the training in accordance with the national Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS). This includes information on student demographics, units undertaken; duration of training, assessment outcomes and delivery schedules. In addition, RTO's must submit a Delivery and Support Services (DASS) plan for every target group, qualification and region they are delivering in. This plan outlines the method of training, frequency and duration of training and associated support services that will be provided.