

TAFE — TRADE STUDIES

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

I draw the minister's attention to the questions I have raised with her numerous times in this house and in the Legislative Council about why and how the minister has killed off five trade studies.

- (1) Why have no employers or their apprentices from the five smaller trade subjects taken up the minister's supposedly generous offer of flying to Queensland or New South Wales to complete their trade studies?
- (2) Given that the minister's previous answers indicate that now two interstate registered training organisations are contracted to deliver training in Western Australia, which of these five trade courses are they delivering?
- (3) Why has the minister sacked the WA lecturers of these courses only to now fly in eastern states' trainers to replace them?

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

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(3) It is a very specific question and I could have probably furnished the member with a more comprehensive answer had he given me some notice of the question. However, I put it to the member for Cockburn that the reason the five courses were cancelled was that we did not have a lot of students for them. The fact that the students are not taking up our offer to avail themselves of the training in other jurisdictions is more because there is not an interest in being trained in those areas. We are not going to keep employing lecturers to deliver training that students do not want to receive. If the students do not want to receive the training and we are not having the numbers front up for the courses, and if they do not want to go to other jurisdictions to avail themselves of the courses there, we will not keep running them. We run thousands of courses right across the state and five of them have dropped off due to a lack of numbers. We are not going to keep employing lecturers to deliver lectures to empty classrooms.