

PAYROLL TAX — TRAINEES — EXEMPTION

1146. Hon DONNA FARAGHER to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the minister's press statement dated 30 November 2017 titled "Changes to payroll tax exemption for trainees announced" and reference to a new grants scheme with options to be considered in mid-2018.

- (1) What options have been considered by government?
- (2) Has consultation on the new grants scheme commenced; and, if yes, when did consultation commence and what form of consultation is being undertaken?
- (3) If no to (2), when will consultation commence?
- (4) Will the minister list the stakeholders that will be consulted as part of the development of this scheme?
- (5) Is the new scheme intended to commence from 1 July 2019; and, if not, when is it expected to commence?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The Department of Training and Workforce Development is preparing options for consideration by the state government. This will include options that cover the priorities identified by the WA State Training Board and included in the National Partnership on the Skilling Australians Fund agreement. Other considerations will be the eligibility for the scheme, the size and timing of payments and streamlined administrative processes.
- (2) The first round of consultation on the design of a grants scheme took place during April and May 2018. Further consultation is being planned for early 2019.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) The government will consult widely on the scheme. It intends at a minimum to consult with the same stakeholders that contributed to the first round, which were: UnionsWA; group training organisations; the Small Business Development Corporation; the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA; the Chamber of Minerals and Energy; the Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry of WA; Civil Contractors Federation; the Construction Training Fund; the Australian Industry Group; the Business Council of Australia; TAFE colleges; the Australian Council for Private Education and Training; the WA State Training Board; and training councils.
- (5) It is expected that the scheme will be operational by 1 July 2019, subject to the passage of payroll tax amendment legislation.