

TAFE — TRADE STUDIES

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

I have a supplementary question. The apprentices and their employers have been told that the courses are available only in the eastern states. Who is going to pay to fly these apprentices to the eastern states—Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria—and find accommodation so that they can complete their studies? Who is going to pay for it?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

The member raises a valid point. We need to get this in context. The member for Cockburn is scaremongering. Let me advise the house that one of these courses is a certificate III —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members for Cockburn and Cannington, can you speak through the Chair, please. I want a short, concise answer, thank you.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: One of the courses that has been cancelled by Polytechnic West is a certificate III in electronics and communications. For the benefit of members, that is a course on electronic servicing for televisions. How many jobs do members think are out there these days for people servicing televisions? There are not many, so for the very, very small number of people who wish to receive that training, we have arranged for that training to be provided by TAFE Queensland SkillsTech. We have found other training providers to provide an opportunity for the very small number of students who still wish to be trained in these thin markets. It is not sustainable for us to run those courses and I support the decision of Polytechnic West.