

DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT —
PRIVATE TRAINING PROVIDERS

468. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:

- (1) How many auditors does the minister's department employ to monitor spending of government funds by private training providers?
- (2) What safeguards does the government have in place to ensure that the number of students enrolled with each private training provider matches the funding given to that provider?
- (3)
 - (a) Is any private training provider under investigation for irregularities with enrolments or use of funding; and, if so —
 - (b) how many providers; and
 - (c) where is each provider located?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

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

- (1) The department has one training contracts auditor and five contract managers who monitor the spending of government funds by private training providers.
- (2) The department utilises the following safeguards in regard to funding of training activity at private training providers. All claims for funding are supported by records of each unit of competency undertaken by students. These records include all information required under the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard, such as names of all students, contact details, dates of training in each unit of competency, training location and outcomes of the training. All training activity funded by the department is subject to the national invalid enrolment audit conducted by the National Centre for Vocational Education and Research. Irregular enrolment patterns are checked by departmental staff and when necessary include student follow-up to confirm participation in training. All funding claims for apprenticeships and traineeships training are validated against the department's training records system to verify the student's existence prior to provision of any funding.
- (3)
 - (a) Yes.
 - (b) One.
 - (c) Bunbury.