

HAIRDRESSING APPRENTICES - TAYLOR AND WEIR SCHOOL OF HAIRDRESSING

10. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Education and Training:

Why has the subsidy been withdrawn for hairdressing apprentices from Bunbury who are attending the Taylor and Weir School of Hairdressing?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The Department of Education and Training funds the off-the-job training of apprentices in Western Australia. Funding for the training of hairdressing apprentices in Bunbury is limited to the students attending the South West Regional College of TAFE. This recognises the need for the support of the local regional training provider and is consistent with the department's policy of providing a competitive training market. However, due to an oversight on behalf of the Taylor and Weir School of Hairdressing, a number of local apprentices in Bunbury were signed up with the school as the nominated training provider. Despite this being inconsistent with the department's policy, as an act of good faith the department allowed these apprentices to continue their training with Taylor and Weir so as not to interrupt their studies. Although Taylor and Weir has been advised that the department will not publicly fund or subsidise any new apprentices from the south west region to attend Taylor and Weir, the department's policy is under review.