

TAFE — COURSE RELOCATION

2923. Mr D.A. Templeman to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:

I refer to the recent decision to relocate the Wall and Ceiling Lining and Bricklaying/Blocklaying Courses from Peel Challenger TAFE to the Building Technologies Training Facility at the Challenger Rockingham Campus and ask:

- (a) for Semester Two 2014, was each student enrolled at Peel Campus recorded as a Peel Student or a Rockingham student for the purposes of the College receiving funding for the training from the Department;
- (b) when was ABN Training consulted about this relocation;
- (c) who responded from ABN Training about the relocation;
- (d) what was the response received from the ABN Training;
- (e) when was the Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries consulted about this relocation;
- (f) who responded from the Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries;
- (g) what was the response from the Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries;
- (h) what other private or otherwise industry training providers were consulted about the relocation; and
- (i) when were other private or otherwise industry training providers consulted about the relocation?

Dr K.D. Hames replied:

The decisions to relocate the Bricklaying/Blocklaying courses and the Wall and Ceiling Lining were made by Challenger as part of separate processes. Moving or rescheduling courses is not the preferred option but is often necessary to maintain delivery for students and ensure operational efficiency.

Challenger notified both the ABN Group and the Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries (AWCI) of their decision to move courses prior to relocation.

Following the Mandurah Mail article published 4th September 2014 both ABN and AWCI disputed claims made in the article that they were consulted about the proposed relocation prior to the move. Information regarding the consultations was provided to the Mandurah Mail in good faith on advice from Challenger.

Challenger has since conceded that the extent of the consultation with these groups was overstated in the article. Following responses from ABN and AWCI regarding the article, Challenger contacted both groups to discuss the relocation, reconfirm the reasons for the move and outline future plans for training in their respective industries at both Peel and Rockingham in 2015.

- (a) All students (11) were originally enrolled at Peel campus. All enrolments were transferred to Rockingham upon their relocation.
- (b) Advice was provided to ABN Group by telephone on 21 July 2014.
- (c) The Apprentice Administration Assistant at ABN, which is one of the two designated liaison positions for such communication.
- (d) Challenger advise that during the 21 July 2014 telephone conversation the Apprentice Administration Assistant at ABN Group stated that ABN Group had no issues with the proposed move.
- (e) Advice was provided to the AWCI on 20 June 2014.
- (f) President, AWCI and another member of the Executive Committee.
- (g) The President of the AWCI acknowledged receipt of the advice from Challenger and stated that AWCI would continue to support employers who take on apprentices within the industry.

Another member of the AWCI Executive Committee also stated that they had no issue with the relocation of the courses. However, the member expressed concern that the move was undertaken without prior consultation.

- (h)–(i) Wall & Ceiling Lining Employers notified on 20 June 2014:

Above Ceilings and Walls; All Aspects Ceilings; Ceiling Solutions Pty Ltd; Centaur Ceilings; Costal Ceilings; Espace WA Pty Ltd; Gypline Ceilings; Itect Construction Pty Ltd; Milanz Pty Ltd; On Board Ceiling Services; Premier Ceilings (WA) Pty Ltd; Renov8 Ceilings & Walls; Superb Ceilings Pty Ltd.

Brick & Block Laying Employers notified on 21 July 2014:

Cachet Homes; J&S Rendle Building & Maintenance; David Jack Mosedale Bricklaying; Home Group WA; ABN Group; JDB Bricklaying.