



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2020-2021

Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

SKILLS AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

Hearing: Monday 1 March 2021

Answers due by: 25 March 2021

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TERTIARY EDUCATION

Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Universities

1. Does the Government agree with Recommendation No.1 of NSW Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No. 3 Report No. 41 Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector January 2021 which reads:
“That the NSW Government improve university transparency and enhance annual reporting. This should include data on reliance on international student income, overseas student numbers in each course, staffing job security and the staffing balance between teaching and research-only.”
2. Will the NSW government commit to requiring NSW Universities (as is the case in Victoria) to publish in their Annual Reports data on the number (headcount) and fulltime equivalent (FTE) staffing employed in:
 - (a) ongoing secure jobs,
 - (b) on limited term contracts
 - (c) as casuals for academic and general/professional employees?
 - (d) If yes, by when?
3. Will the NSW government commit to publishing unambiguous information on the level of remuneration for all NSW university vice-chancellors and their senior executives including information on bonuses and the Key Performance Indicators on which they are awarded?
 - (a) If yes, by when?

TAFE/Courses/Programs/Apprenticeships

4. How many students were enrolled in COVID or bushfire recovery courses at Scone TAFE?
5. What courses are currently run at Scone TAFE campus?
6. How many of the courses TAFE made available to bushfire affected regions to help communities rebuild were offered at Bega TAFE?
 - (a) How many were offered at the Bega Connected Learning Centre?

7. Provide a list of courses currently on offer at the BEGA CLC?
8. How many parcels of land belonging to TAFE have been handed to the land and property authorities?
9. How many 'asset sale for reinvestment of surplus properties' belonging to TAFE has the government acquired?
10. How often does the TAFE Commission meet with the Minister to provide advice and recommendations?
 - (a) How many members of TAFE Commission will meet with Minister?
 - (b) Provide the names of the members.
11. How does TAFE address complaints on course delivery documented in the 19/20 Annual Report?
 - (a) Are the complaints clustered based on type of course where the complaints were about course content?
 - (b) Are the complaints in relation to education delivery organised based on type of course?
12. Which courses received the most complaints?
13. What was the total number of Permanent fulltime TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2015?
14. What was the total number of Permanent fulltime TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2020?
15. What was the total number of Permanent part- time TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2015?
16. What was the total number of Permanent part- time TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2020?
17. What was the total number of Temporary fulltime TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2015?

18. What was the total number of Temporary part- time TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2020?
19. What was the total number of part time casual TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2015?
20. What was the total number of part time casual TAFE Teachers employed at 1st March 2020?
21. TAFE teachers have expressed concerns about increase management appointment and costs especially in the area of compliance. How many new positions have been created in the Delivery Implementation and Performance teams since 2016?
22. How much has the government spent on the EBS software to date?
23. What is the proposed budget to fix the EBS system?
24. How many students enrolled in a COVID recovery course to date?
 - (a) Could you provide a breakdown of courses enrolled in by campus/CLC location?
 - (b) These courses were short course (weeks or days), what is the number of completions in the COVID recovery courses to date?
25. How many students enrolled in the Bushfire recovery courses to date?
26. What is the total number of students who enrolled in the 21 fee free short courses announced in April 2020 to assist job seekers and worker upskill to date?
 - (a) Of those, how many were first time students?
 - (b) What is the number of completions associated with the 21 fee free short courses to date?
 - (c) What is the number of students who did not complete the courses to date?
 - (d) How many fee free Job Trainer courses have been taken up at TAFE to date?
 - (e) Can you provide a list of the enrolments by course type under the Fee Free Job Trainer?
 - (f) Can you provide this list broken down by course type and location?
27. Job Trainer is set to end by the end of March, what will happen to students who are currently enrolled in Job Trainer Courses?

- (a) Will the NSW Government commit to further support once Job Trainer ends at the end of March?
 - (b) What will that look like?
28. How many students have taken up a course under the Summer Skills Program in:
- (a) Agriculture?
 - (b) Construction?
 - (c) Conservation?
 - (d) Fitness?
 - (e) Engineering?
 - (f) Coding?
 - (g) Communication?
 - (h) Digital Literacy?
29. Of the 100,000 fee free training places, how many have taken up a course in Hospitality?
30. What is the average duration of the courses under the Summer Skills Program?
31. How many fee free places have been taken up by apprentices and trainees to date?
32. What is the total enrolments number of apprentices undertaking an Electrical Trades course through TAFE?
33. What is the total enrolments number of apprentices undertaking a Plumbing course through TAFE?
34. What is the total number of apprentices who dropped out of their apprenticeship in the 2019/2020 reporting year?
- (a) Of those, how many were fee free apprentices?
35. How many students are enrolled in a school-based apprenticeship to date?
- (a) How many students were enrolled in a school-based apprenticeship in the 17/18 reporting period?
 - (b) Which apprenticeships are students undertaking as part of their first year? Proved numbers for each course please

- (c) What is the breakdown of study for first year apprenticeships being undertaken in TAFE campuses as opposed to private providers? Could you provide that in categories of study and location
- (d) How many students were enrolled in a school-based apprenticeship in the 18/19 reporting period?
- (e) How many students were enrolled in a school-based apprenticeship in the 19/20 reporting period?
- (f) How many people commenced a traineeship in the 2021 academic year? Which courses? Please provide numbers of students, by traineeship and location for each of the traineeships commenced in 2021
- (g) How many trainees commenced study in 2020?

Hunter TAFE

36. How many students were enrolled at Hunter TAFE in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018;
- (i) 2019;
- (j) 2020; and
- (k) 2021?

- i. If the answer refers to another document please provide name of the document and the specific page number where the information can be found or the URL address.

37. How many FTE teachers, by campus, were employed at Hunter TAFE in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;

- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018;
- (i) 2019;
- (j) 2020; and
- (k) 2021?

38. How many FTE staff, by campus, were employed at Hunter TAFE in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018;
- (i) 2019;
- (j) 2020; and
- (k) 2021?

39. How many courses were offered at Hunter TAFE in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018;
- (i) 2019;
- (j) 2020; and
- (k) 2021?

40. Do you have any plans to privatise Hunter TAFE?
41. How many vacant buildings are located at Hunter TAFE campuses?
 - (a) Please provide the breakdown by campus.
42. How many staff will be made redundant as part of the Hunter TAFE restructure?
 - (a) Please provide the breakdown by campus.
43. Does the government have any plans to sell any buildings or land at the Newcastle Hunter Street TAFE campus?
44. Does the government have any plans to sell any buildings or land at the Hamilton TAFE campus?
45. Does the government have any plans to sell any buildings or land at the Tighes Hill TAFE campus?
46. Is there any friable asbestos at any of the Hunter TAFE campuses?
 - (a) If so, please provide a breakdown type, location and condition.

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Casualisation

47. What is the current rate of casualization in the tertiary education sector?
48. In 2016 there were estimates that 65% of the all staff in universities were employed in insecure positions like casual and fixed-term contracts, do you have concerns about the impact of this on teaching and learning?
49. What input have you had into targets for the reduction of casualization in NSW universities?
50. In 2020 you advised that NSW Department of Education officials will work with counterparts in Victoria to understand the data that they collect on casualisation and how it differs from the Commonwealth data - what is the progress on this?

Free university

51. What is the estimated return on investment from university spending?
52. Have you or your agency done anything to model the possible impact of free university for all as a post-COVID recovery response?

Job cuts

53. How many job cuts are foreseen in the tertiary sector in NSW in 2021 by university?
54. What are you doing to respond to this?
55. Given the economic impacts of this will go significantly beyond the direct job losses what are you as the Minister doing to minimise planned cuts? Have you had any success?

Vice Chancellor Pay

56. What steps are you taking to implement the recommendations of the Tertiary Inquiry regarding vice-chancellor pay?
57. When will relevant changes be in play?

SKILLS

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

TAFE Job Cuts

58. How many TAFE teachers and support positions have been lost since 2011?

Campus sales

59. How much have you made from the sale of TAFE campuses so far in FY 2020 and FY 2021?

60. Is this money respent in TAFE?

TAFE MD salary

61. What is the TAFEMD salary for 2021?

62. What salary increase did NSW TAFE teachers receive in 2020?

63. How many managers at TAFE are currently paid at or above Senior Executive Service Level?
Has this increased from the 101 at November 2019?

Public Interest Disclosures

64. How many PID- Public interested disclosures have been filed against NSW TAFE in the last two years?

65. How many cases were there in the Fair Work Commission Australia against NSW TAFE in the last two years?

66. How much has NSW TAFE spent on legal cases against teachers in the last two years?

67. How many teachers have been made redundant in the last two years?

Staffing and support

68. How many on the ground tech support and IT jobs are in TAFES across NSW?

69. We have been advised that Customer Service Team Leaders and Coordinator have lost their jobs and Customer Service is to be Centralised - how many jobs are anticipated to be lost through this process?

70. How many staff from TAFE child care centres have been let go in the last 5 years?
71. What is the overall reduction in the number of places available at TAFE Child Care Centres?
72. Regarding the move to virtual classrooms - what steps have been taken to ensure that this does not adversely impact poorer people? What about those who have poor internet connections because of the Liberals failed NBN?