

## **MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE**

#### **QUESTION**

50 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

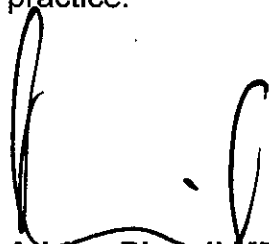
How does the Department of Education and Communities monitor whether government schools are meeting the requirement to develop individual education plans for school aged children and young people in care?

#### **ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has clearly defined policies regarding the requirement to develop individual education plans for children and young people in statutory out of home care.

Since July 2010, all government schools have been required to develop individual education plans for children and young people entering out of home care.

Out of home care coordinators have been appointed to assist schools with this practice.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**POLICY AND PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS BULLYING UNDER THE NEW STATE OFFICE STRUCTURE**

**QUESTION**

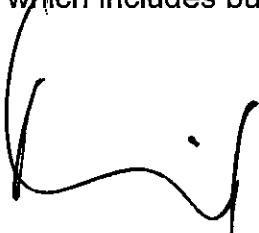
51 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION - POLICY AND PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS BULLYING UNDER THE NEW STATE OFFICE STRUCTURE – the Hon Helen Westwood/MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

What FTE is dedicated to developing policy and programmes to address bullying under the new State office structure and how does this compare to what was available under the previous structure?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has strong policies and procedures in place to deal with bullying. This includes the requirement that all schools have an Anti-bullying Plan that includes specific strategies to counter bullying.

In the current structure, there is a specialist position that focuses on Anti-bullying. Under the new structure, support in this area has been strengthened by the establishment of a social inclusion team. The team will focus on the development of pro-social behaviour and responses to the full range of student behaviour needs, which includes bullying.



**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**FUNDING PER STUDENT – RESOURCE ALLOCATION MODEL**

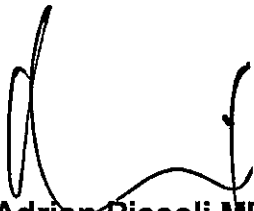
**QUESTION**

52 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – FUNDING PER STUDENT – RESOURCE ALLOCATION MODEL – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

Will the Resource Allocation Model provide for a funding per student amount that continues to increase while ever student numbers at a school increase?

**ANSWER**

The Resource Allocation Model will fund schools on a per student basis as well as recognise the fixed costs of operating all schools.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**FORECAST – NUMBER OF PRIMARY STUDENTS**

**QUESTION**

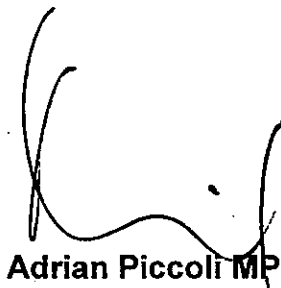
53 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – FORECAST – NUMBER OF PRIMARY STUDENTS – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

What is the forecast of number of primary students based on given it is only expected to grow by 51 students when it grew by more than 3600 between 2010 and 2011 and more than 1200 between 2009 and 2010?

**ANSWER**

The forecast of primary students is an estimate derived from several sources, including preliminary student numbers, trends in grade progression and student mobility.

The enrolment forecasts are reviewed and revised throughout the year as more accurate data are collected.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET 2011/12 – PRIMARY EDUCATION SERVICES**

**QUESTION**

54 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – BUDGET 2011/12 – PRIMARY EDUCATION SERVICES – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

Why was the budget for Primary Education services underspent by more than \$87m in 2011/12?

**ANSWER**

The revised 2011/12 expenses for Primary Education services was under the 2011/12 budget by more than \$87 million and was mainly attributed to lower than expected expenditure in National Partnership programs and a lower than expected depreciation expense.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### PUBLIC PRESCHOOLS ENROLMENTS/INTRODUCTION OF FEES

#### QUESTION

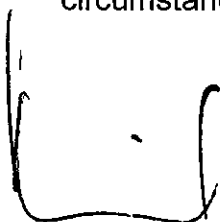
55 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – PUBLIC PRESCHOOLS ENROLMENTS/INTRODUCTION OF FEES – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

In relation to public preschools:

- a. What was total number of enrolments in public preschools in 2012 as compared to 2011?
- b. How has the introduction of fees at public preschools affected the number of days for which children are being enrolled per week?
- c. How much revenue will the Government receive as a result of charging fees at public preschools in 2012?

#### ANSWER

- a. In 2011 a total of 4,416 children attended preschool classes in government schools. Enrolment data collected as at 1 August 2012 indicates that 4,425 children are enrolled and attending in 2012: a 0.2% increase.
- b. The majority of the Department's preschools split the week into two separate sessions for different groups of children. This has not changed. Preschools in government schools have a mandate to provide for the most disadvantaged children particularly those who would not otherwise be able to attend preschool. The NSW Government has ensured that the most disadvantaged families have access to fee relief or, in some cases, full fee exemption.
- c. We do not know how much revenue will be raised in 2012. It will depend on the circumstances of each family and any fee relief or exemptions provided.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING 2012/13**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 - EDUCATION – Teacher Professional Learning Funding 2012/13 – Ms Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

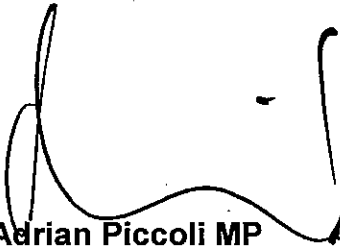
56. How much funding is provided for teacher professional development in 2012/13 and how much of this funding is provided directly to schools?

**ANSWER**

56. Each year approximately \$36 million is distributed to schools and regions for teacher professional learning.

Teacher professional learning funding is distributed in two semester payments. The first payment for the 2012/13 financial year has been distributed. Of the \$18,000,000 allocation, \$17,359,002 was allocated directly to schools. The remaining \$640,998 was distributed to regions to support regionally delivered teacher professional learning programs.

The Department of Education and Communities is yet to finalise the remaining payment for the 2012/2013 financial year.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**NUMBER OF TEACHERS AIDES**

**QUESTION**

57 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – NUMBER OF TEACHERS AIDES – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

How many Teachers Aides were there as at the end of Term 2, 2012, on a region by region breakdown?

**ANSWER**

The number of established School Learning Support Officer positions (FTE), previously known as Teachers Aides, for 2012 on a region by region breakdown is:

Region	
Hunter/Central Coast	335.996
Illawarra and South East	265.75
New England	74.322
North Coast	178.108
Northern Sydney	146.2
Riverina	96.612
South Western Sydney	585.7
Sydney	254.4
Western NSW	213.188
Western Sydney	446.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2596.476</b>

Source: Department of Education and Communities' staffing entitlement system



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE FINE ARTS IN NSW – CURRENT STUDENT ENROLMENTS**

**QUESTION**

58 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-EDUCATION - FINE ARTS IN NSW – CURRENT STUDENT ENROLMENTS - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

How many students are currently enrolled in TAFE Fine Arts Courses in NSW?

**ANSWER**

Data on current enrolments are not available. The most recent data available are for 2011, when there were 5,815 enrolments in TAFE Fine Arts Courses. This includes enrolments in courses that are currently run commercially.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE FINE ARTS IN NSW – FEES FOR RE-ENROLLING STUDENTS**

**QUESTION**

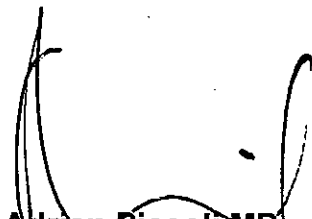
59 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-EDUCATION - FINE ARTS IN NSW - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

How many continuing students are enrolled in TAFE courses that will not complete until 2013 and will these students when they re-enrol for 2013 be charged commercial fees?

**ANSWER**

It is estimated that of students currently enrolled in 2012, approximately 790 of these may be re-enrolling in 2013 in Fine Arts courses which will be full fee.

Continuing full fee paying Fine Arts students studying a Diploma or Advanced Diploma may be eligible to apply for a VET FEE-HELP loan in 2013.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE FINE ARTS IN NSW – JOB PROSPECTS AND COURSE COMPLETIONS**

**QUESTION**

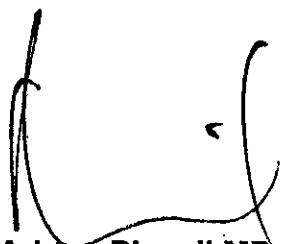
60 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-EDUCATION - FINE ARTS IN NSW - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

What is the evidence for the claim that job prospects and completion rates are low in TAFE Fine Arts courses? Will this information be made available?

**ANSWER**

Based on an analysis of TAFE NSW enrolments and independent labour market forecasts, job prospects for some Fine Arts courses are low compared to skill shortage areas such as health, community services, property and business services.

Completion levels for Fine Arts courses are low when compared with students studying other TAFE NSW courses.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**“SMART AND SKILLED” DISCUSSION PAPER**

**QUESTION**

61 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – “SMART AND SKILLED” DISCUSSION PAPER – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

The “Smart and Skilled” discussion paper says that the capacity of the vocational education and training system needs to be improved – how does reducing TAFE’s budget, cutting TAFE staff and increasing TAFE fees achieve this?

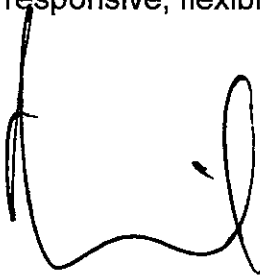
**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW plays a critical role in supporting the State’s economic and social priorities. Changes to TAFE NSW are designed to ensure TAFE is operating efficiently, remains competitive and training is focused on areas of jobs growth.

With a reduction in GST revenue of over \$5.2 billion over the next 4 years, all NSW Government agencies have to make tough decisions to ensure the state is living within its means.

In 2011, the NSW Government set efficiency targets for all government departments. In June 2012, the NSW Government put in place a Labour Expense Cap. The efficiency savings and the Labour Expense Cap, combined with a range of other government savings measures means that the whole NSW education sector must rein in costs. This means that over the next four years TAFE NSW will need to make significant changes to meet its budget.

In addition, to support TAFE NSW in responding to the State’s changing skill priorities and the success of Smart and Skilled, the Government is implementing changes that will transform TAFE NSW and its Institutes to become more locally responsive, flexible and autonomous.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## **MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **TAFE FEES**

#### **QUESTION**

62 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE FEES – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

What analysis or modelling was undertaken to assess the impact of increasing TAFE fees and reducing staff on the number of people undertaking vocational education and training? Will this information be made available?

#### **ANSWER**

I refer you to LA QON 2849 TAFE Fees. TAFE NSW reviewed fees charged in other states and territories and found that TAFE NSW fees for government subsidised enrolments continue to be lower than fees that are charged in many other states and territories. TAFE NSW has the most generous fee exemption and concession policy for disadvantaged students compared to other states and territories.

The Labour Expense Cap applies to all TAFE NSW staff, including TAFE teachers. Every effort will be made to minimise the impact on front line services.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE FEES/ANNUAL STUDENT HOURS**

**QUESTION**

63 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION –TAFE FEES/ANNUAL STUDENT HOURS – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

What will be the estimated impact on annual student hours of increased fees and reduction in TAFE staff?

**ANSWER**

With regard to the impact of reduction in TAFE staff, I refer you to page 34 of the Transcript.

With regard to the impact of increased fees, I refer you to LA QON 2849 TAFE fees. TAFE NSW reviewed fees charged in other states and territories and found that TAFE NSW fees for government subsidised enrolments continue to be lower than fees that are charged in many other states and territories. TAFE NSW also has the most generous fee exemption and concession policy for disadvantaged students compared to other states and territories.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

**QUESTION 64** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

Why have TAFE teachers not been quarantined from the staff cuts in the same way school teachers have been?

#### **ANSWER**

TAFE is the backbone of the training system in NSW delivering skills across all industries and communities, with a skilled workforce which is industry qualified.

With a \$5.2 billion reduction in GST revenue over the next 4 years, and reductions in other forms of revenue, the State Government has had to make tough decisions to ensure NSW is living within its means. TAFE NSW like other government agencies needs to achieve savings by operating more efficiently.

It is estimated that savings measures may result in a reduction of around 800 positions over the next 4 years. Some of this reduction will be able to be achieved through attrition as positions become vacant.

Changes will be made after engagement and consultation with staff, and every effort will be made to minimise the impact on front line services.

It is important to remember that there is a total of 14,574 FTE staff (as at 30/6/11) across TAFE NSW.

Responsible Governments make the tough calls, the right calls, and yes, sometimes these are unpopular calls.

I know these are tough decisions, but I would not have made them had they not been absolutely necessary.

These are the sorts of decisions that responsible governments make – and it is not easy.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**  
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**TAFE NSW STAFF POSITIONS**

**QUESTION 65**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE Positions – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

Which areas will the 800 positions to be cut from TAFE come from?

**ANSWER**

This is not known at this stage. I refer you to page 34 of the Transcript.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE NSW APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS**

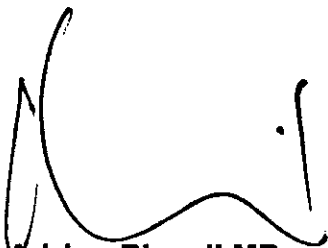
**QUESTION 66**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE Positions – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

Will you quarantine apprenticeships and traineeships in skill shortage areas from the cuts in TAFE?

**ANSWER**

Yes.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE NSW CAMPUSES IN RURAL AND REGIONAL NSW**

**QUESTION 67**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE Positions – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

Will you guarantee that smaller TAFE campuses in regional and rural NSW won't be closed as a result of your cuts?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW has always reviewed the courses it delivers, how it delivers them, and its facilities to ensure that it is meeting the needs of industries and communities. This may result in rationalisation of facilities to ensure students have access to the best industry standard teaching facilities.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE NSW FINE ARTS**

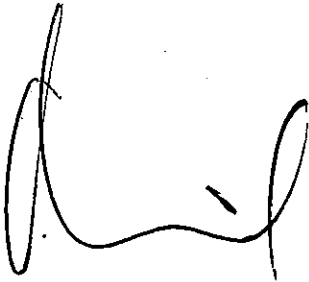
**QUESTION 68**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE Positions – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

How will it be determined what Fine Arts areas have predicted job growth and so continue to receive government subsidised fees? Will this information be made available?

**ANSWER**

As currently occurs, independent labour market forecasts will be analysed to determine areas of predicted jobs growth. TAFE NSW regularly publishes information for students on areas of jobs growth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME / REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW**

**QUESTION**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –**

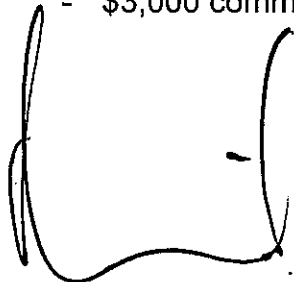
69. How will cutting the funding for the Joint Group Training Scheme, which provides the additional support often necessary to achieve completion, help improve completion rates for apprentices and trainees?

**ANSWER**

69. The decision to cut funding will affect 36 group training organisations which employ less than 5% of the almost 169,000 apprentices and trainees in New South Wales.

Group training organisations still have access to Commonwealth incentives specifically designed to increase apprentice completion rates and include:

- \$4,000 Commonwealth Australian Apprenticeships incentive per apprentice and trainee
- \$1,000 Special Group Training Certificate II completion incentive
- \$1,000 special rural and regional skills shortage commencement incentive
- weekly wage subsidies of \$100-\$500 for adult apprentices
- \$1,500 commencement and completion incentive for over 45 year olds
- \$1,500 commencement and completion incentive for school based Australian Apprentices
- over \$100 per week wage subsidy for apprentice with a disability
- \$3,000 commencement and completion incentive for drought declared areas.



**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW**

**QUESTION**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –**

70. What will be the impact of cutting the funding for the Joint Group Training Scheme on the more than 40 Group Training organisations across NSW?

**ANSWER**

70. State Training Services will work with Group Training Association NSW/ACT to assist any organisations affected by the decision. Should any apprentice or trainee be affected, State Training Services will assist them to find an employer to ensure they complete their training.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', written in a cursive style.

**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/REGIONAL AND RURAL NSW - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

71. How many of these Group Training organisations in regional and rural NSW will fold as a result of this loss of funding?

**ANSWER**

71. The Commonwealth provides additional employment incentives for group training organisations in regional and rural New South Wales, which include a \$1,000 special rural and regional skills shortage commencement incentive, as well as a \$3,000 commencement and completion incentive for drought declared areas.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE OUTREACH AND ACCESS AND EQUITY PROGRAMS**

**QUESTION**

72 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION –TAFE OUTREACH AND ACCESS AND EQUITY PROGRAMS - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

Will the Government rule out reductions in TAFE Outreach and Access and Equity programs as a result of its funding cuts to TAFE?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW is committed to providing equitable access to training and to improving educational outcomes for students, including those facing disadvantage. Institutes will continue to deliver a range of local vocational education and training and participation programs that respond to student need.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli-MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE ENROLMENTS**

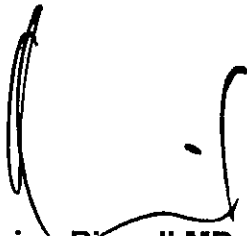
**QUESTION**

73 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE ENROLMENTS – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

How many courses are either being cut or have enrolments reduced as a result of the Government's cuts to TAFE funding?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW course offerings change constantly to meet industry and community demand, to ensure resources are used efficiently and effectively, and to better service the students. This results in a fluctuating demand for teachers.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**  
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**TAFE FEES TO RE-SIT EXAMS**

**QUESTION**

74 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE FEES TO RE-SIT EXAMS  
– the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

How many TAFE institutes will now charge a fee to re-sit exams as a result of the budget cuts to TAFE?

**ANSWER**

In line with longstanding TAFE guidelines, Institutes consider applications from students who wish to re-sit an examination on a case by case basis. Fees may be applicable in certain circumstances.



**Adrian Piccon MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE DIPLOMA/HIGHER LEVEL VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN NSW**

**QUESTION**

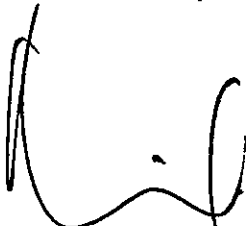
75 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE DIPLOMA/HIGHER LEVEL VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN NSW – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

Why, for the first time since 2009, has the Government forecast the number of people undertaking enrolments in TAFE diploma and above courses will decline in 2012 and what is the Government doing to increase the number of people undertaking higher level vocational training in NSW?

**ANSWER**

When the forecast was made it was anticipated that there would be a slight decline in enrolments in diploma and above qualifications of 0.2% (from 66,793 enrolments in 2011 to 66,659 enrolments in 2012). This was based on calendar year results and the introduction of uncapped places in the higher education sector.

The NSW Government will continue to subsidise training in higher-level qualifications and support pathways to achieve these qualifications. Student loans, similar to those offered to university students, will be offered to Government funded diploma and advanced diploma qualifications from 2014.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SMART AND SKILLED DISCUSSION PAPER**

**QUESTION**

76 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – ANNOUNCEMENT OF SMART AND SKILLED DISCUSSION PAPER – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

When will the Government announce its response to the Smart and Skilled discussion paper?

**ANSWER**

The Government announced its response to the Smart and Skilled discussion paper on 23 October 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', written over the printed name below.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**GOVERNMENT FUNDING – VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**QUESTION**

77 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – GOVERNMENT FUNDING – VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

Will the Government rule out making all government funding for vocational education and training contestable?

**ANSWER**

The Government's priorities are ensuring we have a strong TAFE system and that people from all over New South Wales have the opportunity to access high-quality vocational education and training.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**TAFE STUDENT CONCESSION FEES**

**QUESTION 78**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – TAFE Fees – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

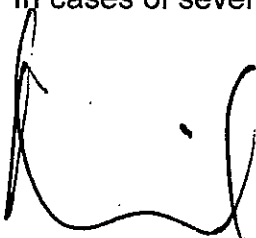
Given the student concession fee is nearly doubling from 1 January 2013, how will the Government ensure this doesn't reduce the number of more disadvantaged members of the community from undertaking study at TAFE?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW has the most generous fee concessions and exemptions for disadvantaged students compared to other States and Territories, including:

- all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are exempt from paying fees
- students with a disability are fee exempt for one course per year, and pay a concession for any subsequent enrolments during the year
- students in receipt of many Commonwealth benefits pay a concession fee of \$100 per course enrolment
- students who complete, and are awarded, the HSC or the Tertiary Preparation Certificate get their fee refunded
- apprentices and trainees pay a single capped fee of \$478 per year
- students enrolled in some special access courses in reading, writing and job readiness are exempt from paying fees
- students enrolled in Government subsidised places in the Diploma of Children's Services are eligible for a Commonwealth fee waiver.

In cases of severe financial hardship, Institute Directors are able to waive the fee.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BUDGET 2011/12**

**QUESTION**

79 - BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 - EDUCATION – VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BUDGET 2011/12 – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

Why was the vocational education and training budget underspent by more than \$119m in 2011/12?

**ANSWER**

The revised 2011-12 expenses for Vocational Education and Training services was under the 2011-12 budget by more than \$119 million and was mainly attributed to lower than expected expenditure in National Partnership programs. National Partnership funding will be carried forward into 2012-13.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF AUDIT  
TO ESTABLISH TAFE INSTITUTES AS SEPARATE CORPORATE ENTITIES**

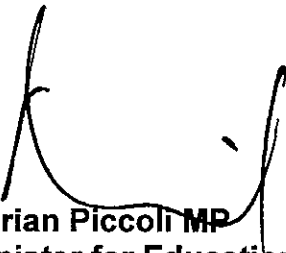
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

80. Is the Government implementing the recommendation from the Report of the Commission of Audit to establish TAFE Institutes as separate corporate entities?

**ANSWER**

80. On 9 August 2012, the Premier and the Treasurer released the NSW Commission of Audit Final Report and the NSW Government response to that Report. The Government's response addressed the Commission of Audit's findings, including all 132 recommendations in the Final Report.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**NSW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON SKILLS REFORM**

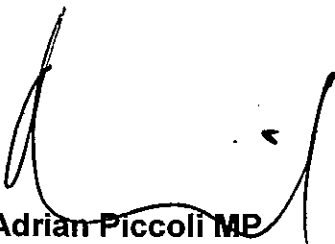
**QUESTION**

81 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — NSW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON SKILLS REFORM – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

Has the NSW Implementation Plan for the National Partnership on Skills Reform been submitted? If not, when will it be submitted?

**ANSWER**

A copy of the NSW Implementation Plan has been provided to the Commonwealth.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TASKFORCE**

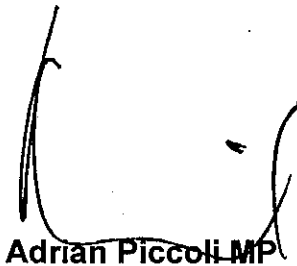
**QUESTION 82**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – International Education and Research Taskforce – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

How many times has the International Education and Research Taskforce, announced in November last year, met?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities is represented on the International Education and Research Taskforce by the Deputy Director-General TAFE and Community Education and the Chief Executive Officer, DEC International. However, NSW Trade and Investment organises and provides support for this Taskforce. As such, all questions about the Taskforce should be directed to the Deputy Premier.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## **MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TASKFORCE**

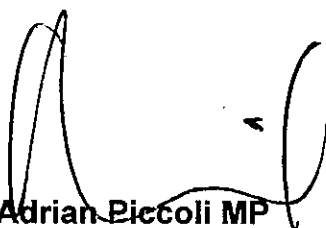
##### **QUESTION 83**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – International Education and Research Taskforce – the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

When will the Action Plan being developed by the International Education and Research Taskforce be finalised?

##### **ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities is represented on the International Education and Research Taskforce by the Deputy Director-General TAFE and Community Education and the Chief Executive Officer, DEC International. However, NSW Trade and Investment organises and provides support for this Taskforce. As such, all questions about the Taskforce and the Industry Action Plan should be directed to the Deputy Premier.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES COMMENCING TRAINING IN 2012**

**QUESTION**

84 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES COMMENCING TRAINING IN 2012 – The Hon Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister of Education –

How many apprentices and trainees commenced training in 2012 and how does this compare with 2011?

**ANSWER**

As at 1 October 2012 there were 16,175 apprenticeship approvals, a 4.8% decrease for the same period in 2011 and 59,224 traineeship approvals, an 8.2% increase for the same period in 2011.

Source of data – Department of Education and Communities' Integrated Vocational Education and Training System (IVETS) database.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/TAFE FEES/APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES**

**QUESTION**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/TAFE FEES/APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –**

85. Did the government undertake any study or modelling to ascertain the impact of cutting the Joint Group Training Scheme before it cut funding from the Scheme?

**ANSWER**

85. Yes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/TAFE FEES/APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES**

**QUESTION**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION — JOINT GROUP TRAINING SCHEME/TAFE FEES/APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES - the Hon Helen Westwood MLC to ask the Minister for Education –**

86. Will cuts to this scheme and to TAFE teachers and staff, combined with the increase in fees for TAFE, result in fewer apprentices and trainees commencing or completing their training?

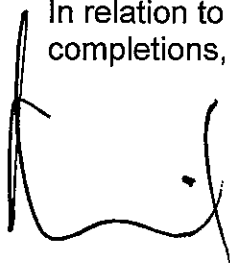
**ANSWER**

86. NSW will continue to fund the training of all apprentices and new entrant trainees through TAFE NSW and private providers.

Should any apprentice or trainee be affected by this decision, State Training Services will assist them to find an employer to ensure they complete their training.

The NSW Government will continue to support apprentices, trainees and their employers, including group training organisations, by providing high quality advice and support via State Training Services Regional Offices and the Vocational Training Tribunal.

In relation to the impact of changes in TAFE on apprentice and trainee completions, I refer you to page 28 of the Transcript.



**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 87** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?

**ANSWER**

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

**QUESTION 88** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?

#### ANSWER

The total expenditure on mobile phones by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is set out in the table below. Please note that this expenditure may include mobile phone purchase costs as the financial system does not separate the purchase costs and mobile usage charges.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
<b>Premier's Office</b>	\$103,152	\$76,457	\$68,475	\$27,570
<b>Ministers' Offices</b>	\$475,539	\$358,396	\$120,285	\$169,655
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$578,691	\$434,854	\$188,761	\$197,226

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

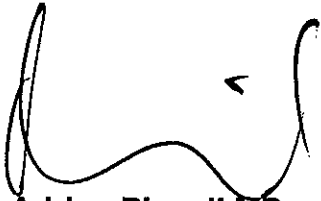
**QUESTION 89** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many have phones have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER**

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was:

	<b>2011/12</b>
Premier	1
Ministers	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 90** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

What is the cost of replacing those phones?

**ANSWER**

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 91** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER**

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices the number of iPads issued was as follows.

	<b>2011/12</b>
Premier	10
Ministers	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 92** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER**

iPads are supplied by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and have not been purchased by Ministers' offices.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 93** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER**

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

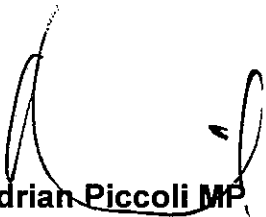
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 94** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER**

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 95** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPhones have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER**

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was:

	<b>2011/12</b>
Premier	1
Ministers	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

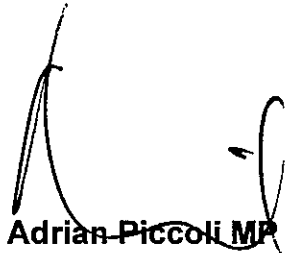
**QUESTION 96** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

How many iPads have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER**

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of iPads lost or stolen was as follows.

	<b>2011/12</b>
Premier	1
Ministers	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**


**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 97** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?

**ANSWER**

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**NUMBER OF MEDIA OR PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISERS EMPLOYED**

**QUESTION**

98 – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012 – EDUCATION – NUMBER OF MEDIA OR PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISERS EMPLOYED – Ms Helen Westwood MLC to the Minister for Education –

How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

**ANSWER**

I refer you to my previous answer provided to the Hon Mick Veitch MLC (LC QON 2014).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', written over the printed name.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

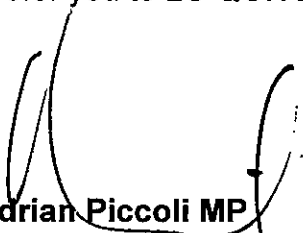
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION 99** – Ms Helen Westwood to the Minister for Education -

What is the forecast for 2012/13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

**ANSWER**

I refer you to LC QON 2014.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**