



STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION

MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), PETER CAIN MLA

Ack to

**Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**5 March 2021**

Asked by JEREMY HANSON MLA:

In relation to:

**MR HANSON:** Okay, so there is a \$14 million budget to fund 6,800 apprenticeships. What I am asking then is, of that \$14 million, how much is ACT money, how much is federal money?

**Ms Andersen:** That would probably—that would be a question for the Treasury as to how that funding is distributed.

**MR HANSON:** But could you take that on notice, just so that you could then identify where that money comes from? I am just trying to get my head across where the money is coming from to support that.

**Ms Andersen:** Yes. Yes.

**Mr Steel:** I think what you are after is a hypothetical apportionment of the funding for the User Choice program.

**MR HANSON:** Well, not hypothetical, But I mean, that money—

**Mr Steel:** Yes. Well, because we have appropriated—

**MR HANSON:** The money is—

**Mr Steel:** We have appropriated the funding for that \$14 million program from the ACT budget. So it is wholly appropriated from the ACT.

**MR HANSON:** It is wholly appropriated from the ACT budget.

**Mr Steel:** But you want to know is a—you want a hypothetical apportionment to the commonwealth funding overall. So we can look at that and look at that figure. But it would be a hypothetical apportionment, because it is just not broken down in that way that you are suggesting.

**MR HANSON:** Right, okay. And with apprenticeships, you said that there was a variant in how much that they were paid, depending on the apprenticeship. What are you doing to try and steer apprenticeships towards skill shortage?



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**QTON No. AR -31**

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**MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), PETER CAIN MLA**

CHRIS STEEL MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

The Australian Government provided \$25.9 million in Specific Purpose Payments to the ACT in 2019-2020, which is appropriated to CMTEDD and CIT. Approximately \$5 million is directed to CIT and \$21 million to the Chief Minister, Treasury, and Economic Development Directorate. Funding allocated to projects is not broken down into specific contributions by the ACT and Australian Government. In 2019-2020 the Australian Government's contribution was about 26 per cent of total ACT VET Funding.

In addition to User Choice funding, a range of supports is available to Australian Apprentices and their employers in the ACT, with a mix of ACT and Australian government administered services and support provided at various stages of an Australian Apprenticeship.

The ACT Government implements strategies to steer apprenticeships towards areas of skills shortage:

- Skills Canberra produces a Skills Needs List (SNL) which is reviewed annually to ensure alignment with the changing skills needs of employers and growth industries in the ACT. The SNL informs subsidies for the Australian Apprenticeships (User Choice) program, allocation of funded training hours under the Canberra Institute of Technology's (CIT's) annual Statement of Intent, and the ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority's (TFA) allocation of incentive payments to employers of apprentices in the building and construction industry.
- Under the National Partnership on the Skilling Australian Fund, the Future Skills for Future Jobs (FSFJ) grants program provides funding for innovative projects that promote market diversity and aim to increase the number of Australian Apprenticeship commencements in the ACT.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Community Inclusion

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Steel'.

Date:

16/3/21

By the Minister for Skills, Chris Steel MLA