



## Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

### **Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022**

#### **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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Asked by Nicole Lawder MLA on 7 November 2022: Josephine Andersen took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard [uncorrected] proof transcript 7 November 2022, page 165-166.

In relation to: CIT attrition rates

**MS LAWDER:** To that. Are there courses at CIT that have very low student numbers, but CIT feel communities or service obligation to provide, even though they are such small numbers? And if yes, or no, what is your minimum student involvement threshold for a course, is it 8, is it 16, is it 50?

**Mr Steel:** I will hand over to Christine Robertson.

**Ms Robertson:** Thank you for that question, I mean, yes, there are programs we deliver with small numbers in enrolments. In terms of a threshold, thresholds very much depend on the facilities need, the equipment need, whether or not we have got staff available that have expertise to deliver those programs, so there is no one threshold number that we would apply, we look at each qualification that we are delivering, each course that we are delivering, ensure we have got appropriately trained staff and assure that we can meet the training needs that are detailed in the training package for that particular qualification.

All of those criteria would be applied to making a decision around the viability of the ongoing viability of those programs. But yes, there are numbers and qualifications with the small enrolments which we would consider important to deliver for communities.

**MS LAWDER:** Can you give me an example?

**Ms Robertson:** Yes, Jo, are you able to talk about some of those?

**Ms Andersen:** Yes, absolutely. So we do have lower enrolments this year than last year, for example, in some of our business and leadership courses and in—some of the courses are delivered through CIT, Urana. But again, some of those things, you know, numbers have been quite volatile recently in the past couple of years in the wake of COVID so as Ms Robertson said, there is no minimum threshold at this point for those courses because they are really valuable courses and, of course, we would apply marketing efforts to building the student cohort undertaking those courses as well.

**MS LAWDER:** And for those sort of courses that may, perhaps, have low enrolments, is there an attrition rate, you know, if you did a certificate two and then were going onto a certificate four, is there like a, you know, only 60 per cent of people might go on, do you have that sort of information?

**Ms Andersen:** It is very likely we do have that information, some courses do not articulate neatly, of course, but yes, we would definitely have that information about students who go on to further study either in a similar field of education or a different field of education.

Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

Many CIT students will complete a lower-level qualification with no intention to progress to further study. This is standard for TAFE across Australia and does not represent attrition.

The National Centre for Vocational Education Research 2021 Student Outcomes Survey shows:

- 84.9 per cent of CIT graduates achieved the main reason for training
- 35.9 per cent of CIT graduates enrolled in further study after training.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date: 17/11/22

By the Minister for Skills, Chris Steel MLA