



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by MR PARTON on 31 July 2023: Minister STEEL (Skills) took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: *Uncorrected Hansard Transcript* 31 July 2023 [pages 28-30]

In relation to:

Regarding the silica training course developed by CSI - how much money goes back from each individual who had been mandated to do this course back to the author of the course?

THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mr Pettersson. Mr Carter, can I ask you, the silica training that you have described, are you able to tell me which individual or organisation constructed that training unit, actually put it together?

Mr Carter: As I understand it, the course was developed by Creative Safety Initiatives back I think several years go. The program was delivered and supported through rebates of training from us since 2015/2016, as I understand it.

[...]

THE CHAIR: Are you able to tell me for each of those individuals that undertake the course how much money goes back to the author of the course?

Mr Carter: I understand that there are some nine registered training organisations that have achieved license to be able to deliver the training program, so it is not just CSI delivering; there are nine. The course costs range between 390 and 400 dollars per person, as I understand it.

Our rebate was established by our board based on a matrix delivered on the cost of the value of the course, but also the cost of face to face hours and then the four hour course is a consistent rebate from our perspective of being \$100, because that is what we fund for those type of awareness programs. I do not know the exact figure that may well or may not be provided back to the owner of that program, being CSI.

[...]

Mr Carter: Now as far as the rebate is concerned, we provide agreements with the nine RTOs that deliver the training program to pass the \$100 on on our behalf to eligible applicants. That is done through a gap price exchange when somebody enrolls to do the training program, so for example, if it is \$400, we provide 100. The individual would pay \$300. They would receive that rebate and then

on a fortnightly or monthly basis those RTOs invoice us for the number of people they have provided the training. How the RTOs themselves have to provide a further cost back to the course owner, I am not familiar with the administrative process around that.

THE CHAIR: Minister, are you in a position to tell me how much money goes back from each individual that has been mandated to do this course? Are you able to tell me how much of it goes back to the author of the course? Because at 14,000 participants, that is a hell of a lot of money. No? You are not able to?

Mr Steel: I think we can take that on notice if you like.

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

The ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority (TFA), an independent statutory body, provides a rebate on the cost of the *10830NAT Course in Crystalline Silica Exposure Prevention* course delivery, of \$100 per eligible student. The author of the course is Creative Safety Initiatives. The price of this course varies between the nine approved providers from \$340 to \$400.

The ACT Government does not provide any subsidies to Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) for the delivery of this accredited course. RTOs have individual service agreements for curriculum delivery of this particular course with Creative Safety Initiatives. These service agreements are commercial arrangements between the organisations of which the ACT Government does not have oversight.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:



Date:

11/8/23

By Minister for Skills, Chris Steel MLA