

## Written questions on notice provided by the Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP

### 1. Performance Measures (BP3, p154 and 155)

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

#### Written question:

I refer you to BP3 p155, the performance measure Proportion of Government subsidised enrolments related to qualifications that will lead to jobs and economic growth. The purpose of Skills First is to increase this percentage, to provide training that leads to a job for students. Why has this measure reduced from 84.9% (actual) in 2017 to 81% (expected outcome) in 2018?

#### Answer:

The target for this performance measure has not changed. Set in the 2017-18 budget, it has remained the same at 83 per cent in 2018-19 and 2019-20. The target reflects Government's expectation that training in priority areas will continue to be the focus of students' choice.

The revised expected outcome of 81 per cent in 2018 reflects the legacy impact of students completing courses that were not defined as training that leads to jobs and economic growth.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Training that will 'lead to jobs and economic growth' is defined as a subset of qualifications on the funded course list. This includes enrolments in training that has strong employment outcomes (apprenticeships and traineeships); training that represents Government priorities, including rolling out the National Disability Insurance Scheme, responding to family violence, and completing Victoria's infrastructure projects; and training that meets other social needs, such as foundation skills courses.

**2. Community Services funding (BP3, p154 - 156)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

How much is in the Community Service Funding in 2018/19 and 2019/20?

**Answer:**

Community Service funding for 2018-19 and 2019-20 is \$50 million for each year.

**3. RTOs (BP3, p136)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

I refer you to BP3 p136, Number of Registered Training Organisation (RTO) quality audits and school reviews undertaken annually. According to the Department’s website, there are currently 321 RTOs.

In 2018/19 how many training providers with VET funding contracts have been terminated?

**Answer:**

Across the 2018-19 financial year, nine contracted training providers were terminated.

**4. RTOs (BP3, p136)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

There was a smaller number of RTOs audited this year than the target, one explanation was RTOs “voluntarily cancelling registration after ceasing operations”.

How many RTOs voluntarily cancelled their registration and do you know why they voluntarily ceased?

**Answer:**

In 2017-18, 16 RTOs cancelled their registration. From 1 July 2018 to present, 13 RTOs have cancelled their registration. All cancellations are voluntary.

The Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority does not request RTOs to provide a rationale for cancelling their registration.

**5. RTOs (BP3, p136)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

How many RTOs voluntarily deregistering cited Free TAFE or related issues as the reason for ceasing operations?

**Answer:**

The Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority does not collect this information.

**6. Glenormiston College (BP3, p6)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

How much funding will Glenormiston receive of the \$6.2m in Growing Victoria's Agricultural Industry to upgrade the college?

**Answer:**

To support education in rural and regional Victoria, the Government is investing \$6 million to upgrade student accommodation and facilities at agricultural colleges. South West TAFE (Glenormiston Campus), Melbourne University (Dookie Campus) and Longerenong College are invited to apply for a portion of this funding.

Funding amounts for each college will be determined following receipt and assessment of business cases against agreed program guidelines and eligibility criteria.

**7. Glenormiston College (BP3, p6)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

As part of the upgrade are there any requirements for Acknowledge Education or South West TAFE to deliver increased students numbers, and if so, how many?

**Answer:**

Acknowledge Education plays no role in delivering training at Glenormiston. SWTAFE has been delivering training at Glenormiston since October 2017. Funding for Glenormiston in the 2019-20 budget is capital funding and decisions on training services to be provided will be made following receipt and assessment of business cases against agreed program guidelines and eligibility criteria.

**8. Glenormiston College (BP3, p6)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

How many students completed a training course at Glenormiston in 2018?

**Answer:**

A total of 67 students completed training at Glenormiston in 2018.



**9. Student Data (BP3 p154 and 155)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

I draw your attention to BP3, p 154 and 155, identifying the number of subsidised course enrolments in TAFE and more broadly. By approximately what date has the Department collected the full year data from the previous year?

**Answer:**

While the exact date for each year varies slightly, full-year data for subsidised course enrolments are typically collected by the end of the first week in February of the following year. A number of quality assurance activities such as verification are then undertaken over subsequent weeks.

**10. Energy supply to departments (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Departmental Secretary, the Victorian Government receives a significant discount on electricity from the purchasing contract with Red Energy. In a written response to PAEC from the February 2018 hearings, the former DEDJTR confirmed that for the 2016/17 financial year rates, that despite having a reduction in electricity usage, the Department's electricity bills increased 25%. Has your Department seen a similar rise in the Department's electricity bills?

**Answer:**

The Department's electricity expenditure has not seen a similar rise.

**11. Energy supply to departments (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Can you provide the committee with your Department's:

- a. Units of electricity usage (excluding green power) in mega joules
- b. Units of electricity usage (excluding green power) converted to kilowatt hours
- c. Total financial cost of electricity
- d. And how that compares with the previous financial year.

**Answer:**

- a. Electricity usage data for 2018-19 has not yet been finalised. Electricity usage in mega joules will be published in the Department's 2018-19 Annual Report later this year.
- b. Kilowatt hours is not used as a reporting metric for electricity usage.
- c. Total electricity costs for the 2018-19 financial year are still being calculated.
- d. See above.

**12. Department office based bullying (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Departmental Secretary, for 2017/18 and for 2018/19 so far, can you please provide the committee with the number of Departmental staff that reported incidents of bullying to your Department.

**Answer:**

The number of reports of safety incidents that were caused by exposure to psychological factors from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 was 48 and from 1 July 2018 to 31 May 2019 was 25. Psychological factors include bullying, as well as other factors such as harassment, workload stress and traumatic events.

**13. Department office based bullying (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

For the same timeframe, 2017/18 and for 2018/19 so far, can you please provide the committee with the number of Ministerial staff that reported incidents of bullying to your Department?

**Answer:**

There have been no reported incidents of bullying made by Ministerial staff to the Department in 2017-18 or 2018-19.

**14. Department office based bullying (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Are able to provide a breakdown of all bullying incidents by category identified, whether gender, sexuality, physical for those two previous questions as well.

**Answer:**

The Department’s system does not collect data broken down to a more granular level than an incident being the result of exposure to psychological factors. Details of individual matters are confidential and not publicly disclosed.

**15. Department office based bullying (BP3 PG 134)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Secretary, are you able to please provide the committee with a copy of the latest People Matters Survey results for your Department and, in addition, the itemised results for each portfolio agency under your Department.

**Answer:**

The Victorian Public Sector Commissioner (VPSC) is currently releasing the data of the recent 2019 People Matter Survey to all participating public sector organisations.

**16. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Secretary, BP2 PG 57 identifies \$685 million in Reprioritisations and revenue offsets and \$251 million in savings. This follows on from reprioritisations and savings in last year’s budget. Can you please detail the reprioritisations which have occurred in your Department during 2018/19, for which unit of your Department they applied to and for which programs or policy areas?

**Answer:**

Please refer to the PAEC Questionnaire from 2018-19 for details of 2018-19 reprioritisations.



**17. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

One Department has set a target of reducing their workforce from 13,000 to around 7,000 in 2019/20. What is your Department's headcount reduction target to achieve employee savings?

**Answer:**

The Department does not have a headcount reduction target to achieve employee savings in 2019-20.

**18. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Relevant text:**

Can you please provide the committee with a list of how many fixed terms contracts are not going to be renewed in each unit of your Department?

**Answer:**

Renewal of fixed term contracts is considered on a case by case basis. The Department does not have a list of fixed term contracts that are not going to be renewed.

**19. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

The budget forecasts \$2.5 billion in reprioritisations over the forward estimates. How much of the \$2.5 billion will impact your Department?

**Answer:**

The \$2.5 billion refers to reprioritisations and revenue offsets and is one component of the policy variations which account for the net impact of new budget initiatives. The impact of all savings and reprioritisation allocations through 2019-20 budget will be finalised following the completion of the base review process.

**20. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

The budget forecasts \$1.97 billion in savings over the forward estimates. How much of that \$1.97 billion will impact your Department?

**Answer:**

The allocation of savings across Departments has not yet been finalised. This will be decided as part of the Base Review process.

**21. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Has the Department's Base Review begun? If not, when will it begin?

**Answer:**

The Department of Education and Training has formally commenced its base review.

**22. Voluntary departure packages (BP2 PG 57)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	Secretary Jenny Atta
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Richard Riordan MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Has anyone been contracted to conduct the Base Review at your Department? If so who and at what cost?

**Answer:**

Management consultants were contracted centrally by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) to conduct the base reviews. Consultancy expenditure details will be published in DPC's 2018–19 Annual Report.

Written questions on notice provided by the Hon. Mr. Sam Hibbins MP

**23. Skills First report (BP3 PG 29-30, 392)**

Portfolio:	Training & Skills / Higher Education
Witness:	N/A
Committee member:	The Hon. Mr. Sam Hibbins MP
Page of transcript:	N/A

**Written question:**

Can the department provide the Skills First Report to the PAEC?

**Answer:**

The *Skills First* Review report and a response to the report is the subject of cabinet deliberations and therefore is unable to be provided.