



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

---

Record of Proceedings, 15 September 2015

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL**

**Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee, Report**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (5.44 pm): It is a great pleasure to take part in the debate on the estimates review by the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee. We have a government that cries from the rooftops that it has a record investment in the TAFE sector and it wants to restore TAFE to its rightful place. Despite this rhetoric and despite the extra money that has been put into the sector, it was interesting throughout the estimates hearing to look at the service standards that were put in the budget papers by the minister. Let's have a look at the result of the extra investment and what the government is trying to achieve.

The proportion of all attempted competencies successfully completed in 2014-15 was 93.9 per cent. What is the target for this financial year? Ninety per cent. They have a target that is less than the actual for the last financial year. The proportion of graduates in employment or further study last year was 87.3 per cent. What is the stretch target for this financial year? Eighty-seven per cent. They have gone backwards once again. The number of completions for apprenticeships for last financial year was 11,800. What is the stretch target for this financial year? It is less again at 11,500. So, despite all of the money that has been put into the sector, despite the rhetoric that says they are going to restore the VET sector, in these three key performance indicators their target is to achieve less than they achieved last financial year under the LNP government.

The other thing that was very disturbing to hear at the estimates hearing was the minister's plan for TAFE college assets right around the state. When we came into government, we inherited a system where the assets were heavily under-utilised. They were only used 40 per cent of the time. The assets were also run down—closed, unfit for people to use. So the plan of the LNP government was to make sure that those assets could be utilised far more effectively than they had been in the past. What have Labor done instead? They have repealed an act that would bring that about. They have repealed a statutory authority that was expert in asset management. What they have done is given that back to the department—the department that put us in this situation in the first place. The result of our reforms in the VET sector last year was that five per cent more people were involved in VET study than the year before. Despite that, this government is now reversing every good reform that the previous government brought in.

*(Time expired)*