

## Question on Notice

No. 53

Asked on 13 February 2014

**Ms Palaszczuk** asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (Mr Langbroek)

—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how many TAFE staff are expected to be made redundant next financial year, separating out teaching and non-teaching staff, with the move to full funding contestability for TAFE services and if not, why not?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question.

As you will be aware, my Department has implemented a plan to revitalise Queensland's further education and training sector. *Great skills. Real opportunities.* will see the implementation of a new Vocational Education and Training (VET) investment framework and the creation of a contestable training market. This will open up training delivery so it can be offered by a range of private and public providers.

Making training funding contestable ensures that the government is providing the public with greater choice and the best possible solution at the best possible price.

The Government is supporting TAFE Queensland to make the changes necessary for TAFE to operate more effectively. From 1 July 2014, TAFE Queensland will need to ensure that it is competitive, agile and responsive to the needs of industry. For TAFE Queensland to be responsive, then it must be able to meet the demands of its clients – whether they be large groups of industry-based apprentices or individual students.

All TAFE Queensland institutes are going through a process to look at their business and restructure their organisations to ensure they are providing the best possible service to students at a competitive price.

The staffing needs of TAFE Queensland have been and continue to be based on TAFE institutes regularly monitoring and assessing staffing requirements in line with business needs and student enrolment numbers. Consequently, TAFE staffing levels are routinely monitored and adjusted in line with the delivery needs of students on a semester by semester basis.

For this reason, there is no data available, at this stage, regarding the nature of TAFE staffing for the 2014-2015 financial year.

At all times, TAFE Queensland's focus is on meeting the needs of its students and ensuring their study experience is a positive and rewarding one.

Decisions made will always be in the best interests of the organisation and its future success in a competitive market.