

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1260

asked on Thursday, 12 October 2023

MR S KNUTH ASKED MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS, MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE (HON D FARMER)

QUESTION:

With reference to recent concerns regarding the TAFE Facility at Walkamin being closed at the end of this year and that programs have been removed from the Atherton Tablelands district—

Will the Minister confirm if the TAFE facility at Walkamin is set to be closed or under consideration of closure and confirm any reduction in access to TAFE programs on the Atherton Tablelands?

ANSWER:

TAFE Queensland is committed to supporting regional and rural communities and is working tirelessly with community members to increase student numbers in the Atherton Tablelands district.

TAFE Queensland has made no decision to close and there are no current plans to reduce training at the Walkamin site. There has been no reduction in access to TAFE programs in the district.

To best meet student needs and training demand, including opportunities for high school locals, TAFE Queensland is considering further suitable locations for training delivery in the region. TAFE Queensland have consulted with the Department of Education to identify potential locations, and with local industry to explore workplace-based training delivery.

At present, additional delivery facilities that offer a range of courses are located at Atherton (16 minutes from Walkamin) and Mareeba (12 minutes from Walkamin).