

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Education:

#### Charles Darwin University (CDU)

- 1. What details have been provided to you regarding changes to the structure and operation of the VET college at CDU and when were you made aware of the changes?**

Officers of the Department of Trade Business and Innovation (DTBI) have regular operational meetings relating to DTBI's annual investment of around \$45 million in VET through CDU.

CDU is meeting contractual obligations and has not provided any notification of any specific structural changes relating to VET.

- 2. Will the Northern Territory Government be providing additional funding to CDU to facilitate the restructure of CDU, the loss by redundancy or otherwise of staff, or the change in operation? How much will be provided?**

The Northern Territory Government is invested in a strong VET system that delivers quality training to meet the skills required by local industry and business, now and into the future. Our aim is to build a strong, vibrant, capable economy, with a skilled and inclusive workforce. We have a particular focus on support for Aboriginal Territorians living in regional and remote areas with more challenging labour markets.

The Northern Territory Government has no current plans to provide additional funding to CDU to facilitate a restructure of the organisation. Should CDU request funding to support a restructure, consideration will be given to the matter at that time.

- 3. Will you please provide a copy of the review conducted recently by Ernst and Young about the financial sustainability of the Vocational education and Training sector at CDU which has been finalised?**

CDU commissioned the Ernst and Young report and the Northern Territory Government is not able to provide a copy.

- 4. Are you aware of the number of staff employed by CDU who are currently based interstate? Please provide details.**

The Northern Territory Government is not able to provide this information.

- 5. As part of the Northern Territory Government's grant funding to Vocational Education and Training at CDU, is there an agreement in place pertaining to local employment and appointments? Please provide details.**

There are no specific clauses in the Training Contract that limit CDU's ability to appoint staff as required to deliver VET outcomes to Territory residents.