



Greg Aplin MP

Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

16 May 2018

TAFE NSW – THE FACTS

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin has responded to a number of ‘furphies’ circulating in relation to TAFE NSW since the announcement regarding pre-apprenticeship courses in the Victorian Government budget.

“The NSW Greens spokeswoman, Dawn Walker, urged the NSW Government and NSW Labor to support free pre-apprenticeships in line with the Victorian Government budget announcement.

“Let’s be clear on this - the NSW Government already offers all pre-apprenticeship and pre-traineeship training for free – compared to the limited 18 pre-apprenticeship courses offered in the recent Victorian budget,” Mr Aplin said.

“The Liberal/Nationals Government also already offers 200,000 fee-free scholarships to students who most need help.”

“This Government is proud to support the disadvantaged, indigenous, those with a disability and victims of domestic violence – all of whom can receive fee concessions and exemptions,” Mr Aplin said.

“In April this year, the NSW Assistant Minister for Skills advised of a recruitment drive for 253 new TAFE teachers across NSW over the next 12 months. The unparalleled construction boom across NSW would require 21,600 additional skilled construction workers over the next three years to 2021, along with 10,400 new workers.

“The Minister also advised that Government-funded enrolments at TAFE NSW have increased 19 per cent for electricians and 11 per cent for carpenters and plumbers compared to this time last year.

“Ms Walker’s uninformed comments would have us winding back NSW’s comprehensive concessional and free TAFE training program and that is absurd.

“The NSW Government will not be reducing the support to TAFE NSW, apprentices, trainees and the most vulnerable in our community,” Mr Aplin said.

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