



# Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee

**Hearing date:** 13 June 2025

**Question taken on notice**

**Directed to:** Patrice O'Brien

**Received date:** 8 July 2025

## 1. **Georgie CROZIER, p. 54**

### **Question asked:**

**Patrice O'BRIEN:** Look, I am not sure of the exact number that will be able to go on and work in Victoria, but we definitely do – across all of our courses – do load planning, where we do work –

**Georgie CROZIER:** Can we have a copy of that model or of that planning that you have got?

### **Response:**

The VU Centre of Excellence in Paramedicine (CoEP) will develop a world leading paramedicine workforce delivering better health outcomes for the community.

CoEP will provide a graduate workforce pipeline for Ambulance Victoria, the emergency care sector, and non-emergency patient transport providers. With a successful alignment across both the Vocational and Higher Education learning, CoEP will also provide post qualification training needed to improve staff retention, professional development and mental health outcomes for paramedics.

The centre will also focus on research led training and state of the art simulation spaces to improve Victoria's paramedicine emergency care system and result in better emergency care for Victorians, and a strong, resilient workforce.

The new Centre, located on VU's Sunshine Campus, will be close to Ambulance Victoria's skills-based Capability Hub.

The Centre is focussing on seven streams:

- **Simulation Space** using digital and environmental technology. This will replicate real-life emergency scenarios, from large scale mass casualty events to treating patients on stairs in their homes.
- **Meaningful industry partnerships embedded on site** allowing for shared learning and co-designed post qualification training courses and simulation scenarios for a range of health and emergency services.
- **Research with impact focused on existing industry operational and occupational challenges** faced by emergency and non-emergency

services across the country. It will include fields such as leadership, change management, and workforce wellbeing.

- **Course Modernisation** used by both higher and vocational education students across healthcare courses, in addition to Ambulance Victoria and the wider health, emergency and paramedicine industry.
- **Diversity** having connection and engagement with diverse communities and actively recruit and support diverse students.
- **Leadership and training hub** providing continued opportunities for the existing paramedic workforce to develop post qualification education in occupational priority areas such as in change management and leadership.
- **First Nations** actively recruiting and supporting First Nations students, increase community engagement and expand First Nations education across Paramedicine at VU, that continues as First Nations students enter the workforce, establishing and fostering a network of First Nations alumni.

As the leading Dual Sector University offering both TAFE and Higher Education, VU will continue provide a graduate workforce pipeline for Ambulance Victoria and non-emergency providers to meet population growth and needs in a sustainable way.

Course load planning takes into account a range of factors, including a range of industry and government engagement, national and state skill priorities and institution priorities.

## 2. **Ryan BATCHELOR, p. 57**

### **Question asked:**

**Patrice O'BRIEN:** There is a formal graduate destination survey broadly across the whole university. I am sure we can drill down into the results of that.

**Ryan BATCHELOR:** If you have previously done that, I think it would be interesting for the committee to understand partly where people are landing but any insights, if you have already done the work, on why people are choosing to be places or whether they move around. Sometimes those things can be really illuminating and would be for the committee, so anything you have got and you could provide on notice would be great.

### **Response:**

Victoria University has a long history in leading the way in training the next generations of paramedics.

VU established Victoria's first Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) degree conversion for vocationally trained paramedics in 1995 and the first pre-employment program in 1999. VU's innovation was a catalyst for the shift by Victorian ambulance services to move to a full pre-employment paramedic education model in 2006.

VU currently offers paramedicine related courses in:

- Certificate III in Non-Emergency Patient Transport
- Diploma of Emergency Health Care
- Bachelor of Paramedicine

VU is Victoria's largest provider of vocational Certificate & Diploma programs for the Non-Emergency Patient Transport sector.

Our students undertake placements at a wide range of industry employers – including Ambulance Victoria and Royal Flying Doctor Service, St Johns Ambulance, National Patient Transport and Event Aid.

Many go onto work at these organisations and VU alumni are sought after employees both interstate and internationally as world class graduates. Many VU graduates choose these pathways before accepting careers at Ambulance Victoria.

Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) are government endorsed surveys undertaken by the Social Research Centre for higher education, from commencement to employment. QILT makes available robust, nationally consistent performance data for Australian higher education, helping drive quality improvement.

This includes the Graduate Outcomes Survey, completed by graduates of Australian higher education institutions approximately four to six months after finishing their studies. The GOS measures short-term employment outcomes including skills utilisation, further study activities, and graduate satisfaction. Participation is optional meaning the response rates can be limited. This information is available at [https://www.qilt.edu.au/surveys/graduate-outcomes-survey-\(gos\)](https://www.qilt.edu.au/surveys/graduate-outcomes-survey-(gos)).

The National Centre for Vocational Education Research undertakes a range of surveys that look at apprentices' and trainees' reasons for training, reasons for non-completion, employment outcomes, further study outcomes and satisfaction with the apprenticeship or traineeship. Participation is optional meaning the response rates can be limited. This information is available at

<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/publications/all-publications/vet-student-outcomes-2024>.

Victoria University uses the data made available to the institution via the above surveys into account, but also continues to consider ways to strengthen information collection on our graduates' careers. This includes continuing to strengthen our alumni network, and working with our industry partners on identifying different career pathway our graduates undertake in the sector.