

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research and International**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0083\_14**  
**Senator Carr provided in writing.**

**Question**  
**Strategy and Economic Branch**

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Strategy and Economic branch in the Department of Education? How many FTE position are allocated to the Strategy and Economic branch? Has this changed since 7 September 2013? As at 18 September 2013 when the new Government was sworn in, provide a breakdown of actual headcounts, and provide the number of staff on non-ongoing employment arrangements. Also please provide an up to date organisational structure for this branch. What programs is the Strategy and Economic branch in the Department of Education responsible for?

**Answer**

The Strategy and Economic Branch provides strategic, evidence-based policy advice and policy coordination on a range of issues relating to Higher Education, International Education, Indigenous issues, social policy issues and the economic frameworks that support them.

There are currently seven FTE allocated to the branch.

The Strategy and Economic Branch was created as a result of Machinery Of Government changes and as such did not exist on 7 September 2013.

There are no non-ongoing employees in the branch.

Strategy and Economic Branch structure:

1 x SES Band 1  
3 x EL2 Policy Advisors  
1 x EL2 Senior Economic Advisor  
1 x APS 6 Policy Officer  
1 x APS 5 Executive and Branch Support

The Branch is not responsible for delivering any specific programmes.