

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-001087

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 108

Higher Education reforms modelling

Question

Senator O'NEILL: How does this differ from, or is the same as, the methodology that was used in relation to the research undertaken by Deloitte Access Economics for the Lomax-Smith review of base funding, in 2010? Is it the same model or is it adjusted?

Mr Learmonth: I am not familiar with that one, but I can tell you that this was a survey that was designed specifically for the purpose for which it is to be used.

Senator O'NEILL: Can you take on notice—I think you might have to—this question.

Regarding the cost of teaching the scholarship and basic research capability, as per the Lomax-Smith review, was that the model or was the analysis restricted to cover only the cost of teaching the scholarship?

Mr Learmonth: I will take that on notice. It may have been informed by the earlier work.

Senator O'NEILL: With mindfulness, perhaps, of the sensitivities that Senator Collins has already identified, can the modelling be made public? I know that the sector is very interested.

Dr Bruniges: We will take that under consideration.

Answer

The analysis focuses on the cost of delivering higher education teaching and scholarship. The current analysis builds on the previous Lomax-Smith review.

The data and analysis collected will not be publicly available, as it is of a highly sensitive and commercial nature. The Department of Education and Training has made assurances to participating institutions that any data collected would be treated as commercial-in-confidence and identifiable data would not be released publicly. Decisions on whether to release a more limited dataset to participating institutions or the public will be made at a later date.