

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 2 – Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0129_13

Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

Question

National Secondary School Computer Fund

During estimates in February, the Department advised that a cybersafety paper was to go to AEEYSOC in May 2012, addressing “all the Australian Government responses to the relevant recommendations of the High Wire Act Report. Was this deadline met, when will the paper be made public and when will the implementation timeframes be set? Has any government funding been allocated to this? If so, to whom and how much?

Answer

The Australian Government, led by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), prepared a consolidated response, to the Joint Select Committee on Cyber-safety’s interim report *High-Wire Act: Cyber-safety and the Young*. The Government Statement of Response to this report was tabled in Parliament in December 2011 and is available online at http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations prepared a paper, in consultation with DBCDE and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), addressing the Australian Government responses relevant to the education portfolio for AEEYSOC in May 2012. Through AEEYSOC, the education authorities confirmed their ongoing support for, and commitment to, promoting the Australian Government’s cybersafety resources for schools; including the Cybersafety Help Button and the Australian Communication and Media Authority’s (ACMA) Cybersmart program. There were no further actions required. AEEYSOC agenda papers and minutes are not public documents.

In 2008, the Australian Government committed \$125.8 million over four years to a comprehensive cybersafety plan to combat online risks and help parents and educators protect young people. Measures include increased funding towards cybersafety education, awareness raising activities and law enforcement. These measures are managed by DBCDE, ACMA and the Australian Federal Police.