

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

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

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0472\_13

**Senator Back provided in writing.**

*Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW0068\_13*

**Question**

**Commissioned reports - 2011-12**

How many Reports were commissioned by the Government in your department/agency in 2011-12? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

- How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- What is the current status of each report?
- Did the Government report within the required timeframe?
- If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

**Answer**

There have been five reports commissioned by the Government for the 2011-12 financial year. Details of the five reports are attached.

Name of Report	Details of report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.	Cost/estimate cost of the Report	How many departmental staff was involved in each report and at what level?	What is the current status of the Report?	Did the Government report within the required timeframe?  If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
<b>1.</b> Barriers to Mature Age Employment: Final Report of the Consultative Forum on Mature Age Participation	<p>The Consultative Forum on Mature Age participation was announced on 18 February 2010. Terms of Reference and full membership can be found at <a href="http://www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Programs/ExpPlus/Pages/ConsultForum.aspx">http://www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Programs/ExpPlus/Pages/ConsultForum.aspx</a></p>	\$30 000	<p>Report's drafting was outsourced to the Productive Ageing Centre (National Seniors).</p> <p>Relationship and Contract Management 0.2 x EL2</p>	<p>Executive Summary handed to government 30 May 2012.</p> <p>Full Report provided to Government in June for consideration.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>2.</b> Post-implementation review of the Fair Work Act	<p>Minister Shorten announced the appointment of the Fair Work Act Review Panel and the Review's Terms of Reference on 20 December 2011.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference are available at: <a href="http://www.deewr.gov.au/WorkplaceRelations/Policies/FairWorkActReview/Pages/TermsOfReference.aspx">http://www.deewr.gov.au/WorkplaceRelations/Policies/FairWorkActReview/Pages/TermsOfReference.aspx</a>.</p> <p>The Review Panel comprised Dr John Edwards, the Hon Michael Moore and Professor Emeritus Ron McCallum AO.</p> <p>The report was provided to Government on 15 June 2012</p>	<p>Just under \$900 000.</p> <p>This includes secretariat expenses, panel expenses and publication expenses.</p>	<p>1 x SES Band 1 1 x EL2 2 x EL1 1 x APS6 1 x APS5</p>	<p>Complete and delivered to Government.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>The Fair Work Amendment Bill 2012 was introduced into the Parliament on 30 October 2012 and represents the first tranche of the Government response to the review.</p>



Name of Report	Details of report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.	Estimated Cost of the Report	How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?	What is the current status of the Report?	Did the Government report within the required timeframe?  If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
<b>3.</b> Evaluation of the Youth Connections Reducing Substance Abuse Pilot Project 2011 and 2012	<p>Urbis Pty Ltd was commissioned on 8 August 2011 to undertake the evaluation. The completion date for the evaluation was 31 July 2012.</p> <p>The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the effectiveness of delivering the Reducing Substance Abuse Program through the mainstream Youth Connections Program.</p> <p>A reference group chaired by DEEWR oversees the evaluation.</p>	\$152 000 (GST exclusive)	<p>One DEEWR officer manages the evaluation project as part of their overall duties EL1</p> <p>DEEWR officers are represented on the reference group. 1 x EL2 1 x EL1 1 x APS6</p>	Draft report submitted to DEEWR for comment 13 June 2012	This is a matter for Government.

Name of Report	Details of report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.	Estimated Cost of the Report	How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?	What is the current status of the Report?	Did the Government report within the required timeframe?  If not, when is the Government intending to respond to these reports?
<p><b>4.</b> Trial of a National Model for the Collection of Consistent Data regarding School Students with Disability</p>	<p>The trial and subsequent report was commissioned by DEEWR on behalf of the Steering Committee to Oversight the Trial of the national Model for Identifying Students with Disability who are provided with Additional Educational Needs at AEEYSOC on 18 November 2010.</p> <p>The report was publicly released in October 2011.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee are at <a href="#">Attachment A</a>.</p> <p>The Steering Committee Members are at <a href="#">Attachment B</a>.</p>	<p>\$1.4m for the national trial and subsequent report.</p>	<p>Up to eight Departmental staff were involved at various times in the national trial as part of their overall duties. These staff included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 x Deputy Secretary,</li> <li>1 x Group Manager,</li> <li>1 x Branch Manager,</li> <li>1 x EL2,</li> <li>2 x EL1</li> <li>1 x APS6</li> <li>1 x APS4.</li> </ul>	<p>Public</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>No response Required.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> Responsive School Support Project</p>	<p>The project aims to design and develop support mechanisms that will enable schools serving Indigenous communities to more effectively address the problems restricting student achievements. The President and the Executive Director of the Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) wrote to the Department 7 October 2010 requesting funding. The Project was approved for DEEWR funding on 30 November 2010 by Minister Garrett.</p>	<p>\$502 428</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 x EL2</li> <li>1 x APS6</li> </ul>	<p>Public</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>No response required</p>

## **Attachment A**

### **Steering Committee to Oversight the Trial of the National Model for Identifying Students with Disability who are Provided with Additional Educational Needs**

#### **Terms of Reference**

##### **Background**

On 18 November 2010 the Australian Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Senior Officials Committee (AEEYSOC) agreed to trial a proposed model for identifying students with disability who are provided with additional educational support. The trial will take place in the first half of 2011 with the outcomes to be reported to AEEYSOC in the latter half of the year. DEEWR will be engaging an external consultant through an open tender process to manage the trial on behalf of the Australian Government. To oversight the trial, DEEWR is planning to convene a Steering Committee.

##### **Membership**

The Steering Committee will include senior officials from the following agencies:

- the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (chair);
- each of the State and territory government education authorities; and
- a representative of the catholic and independent education sectors.

##### **Role**

The Steering Committee will:

- oversee the management of the project to trial the National Model for Identifying Students with Disability who are provided with Additional Educational Needs;
- provide comment on the Request for Tender documentation;
- assist with the evaluation and selection of the successful tenderer;
- meet with the successful tenderer and approve the Project Plan;
- facilitate introductions for the successful tenderer as required;
- receive regular updates from the successful consultant and provide feedback as required; and
- provide comment on the draft evaluation report.

## **Attachment B**

<b>Steering Committee Membership Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Ms Cathy Wall (Committee Chair)	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
Mr Greg Wells (Secretariat)	
Mr Matt Davies	
Ms Carolyn Stanistreet	
Dr Mark Collis	ACT Department of Education and Training
Ms Christine Albans	
Ms Jan Batchelor	Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)
Mr Peter White	Department of Education (Tas)
Ms Jeanette McMullan	Department of Education and Training (NT)
Mr Brian Smyth King	Department of Education and Children's Services (SA)
Ms Suzanne Rothwell	Department of Education and Training (NSW)
Mr Boyd Paties	Department of Education and Training (QLD)
Ms Debra Shaw	Department of Education and Training (QLD)
Mr Mark Tainsh	Department of Education and Training (WA)
Ms Cate Pinnington	Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (Vic)
Mr Tim Smith	Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA)
	National Catholic Education Commission