Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 2 – Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0707_13

Senator Mason asked on 18 October 2012, Hansard page 39

Question

Government Response to the Recommendations from Gonski review

Senator MASON: If I can move to the specifics, the chairman will be happy. I will move to some specifics rather than background milestones. I will just go to the status of the Gonski review now if I can. The Gonski review made, I think, 41 recommendations. Can you identify precisely, with respect to each of those 41 recommendations, which ones have been supported or rejected or are under further consideration? Where are we with respect to those recommendations? Ms Paul: The government did an early response to those recommendations once the review came out. In terms of where each of them is up to, I do not know that we could go through that in detail here. Would you like us to take it on notice and give you that sort of breakdown? In effect, all of the recommendations have been considered. Perhaps it is a little bit more complex than saying 'accept' or 'reject', because all the recommendations have been considered in terms of the further work that needed to be done, to my recollection. There may have been a couple which have not progressed, and I would have to remind myself. Mr Cook may be able to talk more. But it might help you if we could do that on notice. FROM PAGE 41 Mr Cook: Again, I would have to take that on notice. Again, a lot of the 41 recommendations actually interplay with each other. I do not want to get too technical but one recommendation often relies on the other, particularly in some of the notions of what a total needs based funding model is. That is the one I record most, but I am certainly happy to it take on notice. Senator MASON: In terms of the implementation of the recommendations, do we know which ones are going to be accepted and implemented, or is that still part of the consultation process? Ms Paul: I am not sure that it is as useful to go through every recommendation and say whether it will be accepted, although I am perfectly happy to take it on notice. I do not have it in front of me. What is probably more useful for you is to know that all of the work that the panel said needed to be done has been done or is still underway. I am not sure that it is a case of accept or reject, but I am happy to look at it from that angle. We just need to go back and look literally at those 41 recommendations.

Answer

The Government has agreed in-principle to the majority of recommendations. The Government has not accepted the recommendation to establish a National Schools Resourcing Body.