

**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. ED0002\_14  
Senator Carr provided in writing.**

**Question  
Quality Enhancement Branch**

- a. What are the roles and responsibilities of the Quality Enhancement Branch in the Department of Education?
- b. What programs is the Quality Enhancement Branch in the Department of Education responsible for?
- c. How many FTE position are allocated to the Quality Enhancement Branch?
- d. Has this changed since 7 September 2013?
- e. 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.
- f. Also please provide an up to date organisational structure for this branch.

**Answer**

- a. The Quality Enhancement Branch is responsible for policy development and issues management directed at improving the quality frameworks of the higher education and international education sectors.
- b. There are no programmes for which the Quality Enhancement Branch is responsible.
- c. There are currently 35.3 FTE allocated to the Quality Enhancement Branch.
- d. This Branch did not exist on 7 September 2013. It was established as a consequence of the Administrative Arrangements Order announced on 18 September and is comprised of previously-existing functions and personnel.
- e. As at 18 September 2013, the headcount was 31.3, including one non-ongoing staff member.
- f. The Quality Enhancement Branch consists of four sections: the Quality Enhancement Strategies Section, the Policy and Legislation Section, the ESOS Data & Reporting Section and the Tuition Protection Service (TPS) Secretariat.