

**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. ED0053\_14**

**Senator Carr provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Teacher Training**

a. Can you please describe the current mechanisms in place to provide the Minister with advice on teacher training? Which area of the Department is primarily responsible for this? b. Is there currently a Ministerial Advisory Group on Teacher Training? If so: what is its role, its reporting timeframe, who is on it, and what kind of support does the Department provide it? c. When did the Minister ask the Department to set up a Ministerial Advisory Group on Teacher Training?

**Answer**

- a. The Quality Teaching Branch in the Schools Cluster is primarily responsible for providing advice to the Minister on teacher training. The Higher Education and Research Group is consulted in relation to universities' role in the training and the funding of teacher training courses.
- b. The Australian Government is in the process of establishing the Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group. The Advisory Group will provide advice on how teacher education programmes could be improved so that beginning teachers have the right mix of academic and practical classroom skills. The Advisory Group will report to the Minister in mid-2014. The Minister for Education has not yet announced the membership of the Group. The Department of Education will provide secretariat support.
- c. The Advisory Group was announced as an election commitment by the Coalition on 1 August 2013.