

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0108\_14**  
**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**  
**Departmental Reviews**

- 1) Since 7 September 2013, how many new Reviews have been commenced?  
Please list them including:
- a) the date they were ordered
  - b) the date they commenced
  - c) the minister responsible
  - d) the department responsible
  - e) the nature of the review
  - f) their terms of reference
  - g) the scope of the review
  - h) Whom is conducting the review
  - i) the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
  - j) the expected report date
  - k) If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public
- 2) For any review commenced or ordered since 7 September 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?
- a) If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names
  - b) If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent
  - c) If yes, for each what are the costs associated with their involvement, broken down to each cost item
  - d) If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement
  - e) If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
  - f) If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them
  - g) If yes, for each, who selected them
  - h) If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,
    - i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was
    - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list
    - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
    - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department
    - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
- 3) Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.
- 4) Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased?  
Please list them.
- 5) Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
- 6) Since 7 September 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government?  
Please list them and the date they were provided.

- 7) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- 8) What reviews are planned?
- a) When will each planned review be commenced?
  - b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
  - c) When will government respond to each review?
  - d) Will the government release each review?
    - vi. If so, when?
    - vii. If not, why not?

## **Answer**

In answering this question, the following definition has been used:

*A 'review commissioned by the Government' is considered to be a review formally requested by a minister or ministers, including the Prime Minister and to which a government response is expected.*

*Reviews produced as a component of work for Cabinet committees, inter-Departmental committees, Council of Australian Government (COAG) working groups and internal committees are excluded.*

Please refer to the attached table for information on reviews.

## Attachment A

<b>1) Since 7 September 2013, how many new Reviews have been commenced? Please list them including:</b>	One. The review of the higher education demand driven funding system.
a. the date they were ordered	12 November 2013.
b. the date they commenced	12 November 2013.
c. the minister responsible	The Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education.
d. the department responsible	Department of Education.
e. the nature of the review	An external review that will consider the effectiveness and efficiency of the demand driven system and recommend possible areas for improvement.
f. their terms of reference	<p><u>Scope of the review</u></p> <p>The review will examine the following aspects of the demand driven system:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the effectiveness of its implementation, including policies regarding the allocation of sub-bachelor and postgraduate places;</li> <li>2. early evidence on the extent to which it is:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. increasing participation;</li> <li>b. improving access for students from low socio-economic status backgrounds and rural and regional communities;</li> <li>c. meeting the skill needs in the economy;</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. extent to which the reforms have encouraged innovation, competition, diversity and greater responsiveness to student demand including development of new modes of delivery such as online learning;</li> <li>4. whether there is evidence of any potential adverse impacts on the quality of teaching and of future graduates;</li> <li>5. measures being taken by universities to ensure quality teaching is maintained and enhanced in the demand-driven system; and</li> <li>6. whether less academically prepared students are receiving the support they need to complete the course of study to which they have been admitted.</li> </ol> <p>The review will recommend possible areas for improvement to ensure that the system better meets its objectives, is efficient, is fiscally sustainable, and supports innovation and competition in education delivery.</p>

	<p><u>Conduct and Timing of review</u> The review will seek the views of major stakeholders and draw on available information and data.</p> <p>The Review will report to the Minister for Education by mid-February 2014.</p>
g. the scope of the review	See (f.) above.
h. Whom is conducting the review	The Hon Dr David Kemp and Mr Andrew Norton.
i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review	Five officers are involved in providing secretariat support (1 x EL2, 2 x EL1 and 2 x APS6). The officers do not work full-time on the review.
j. the expected report date	Mid-February 2014.
k. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public	Made public.
<b>2) For any review commenced or ordered since 7 September 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?</b>	Yes.
a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names	The Hon Dr David Kemp and Mr Andrew Norton.
b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent	Not applicable.
c. If yes, for each what are the costs associated with their involvement, broken down to each cost item	<p>Dr Kemp - \$1117 for each day of work = \$27,925 for an estimated 25 days. Mr Norton - \$922 for each day of work = \$32,270 for an estimated 35 days.</p> <p>If any travel is undertaken flights, accommodation, meals and incidentals will be commensurate with Tier 1 level as outlined in section 2.1 of the Remuneration Tribunal <i>Determination 2013/16: Official Travel by Office Holders</i>.</p>
d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement	Dr Kemp is the senior reviewer and Mr Norton is a reviewer.
e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.	No.
f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them	The Minister appointed the reviewers.
g. If yes, for each, who selected them	The Minister in consultation with the Prime Minister.
h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,	See (g.) above.
i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was	See (g.) above.

ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list	No shortlist was developed.	
iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur	In the period prior to the announcement on 12 November 2013.	
iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department	Yes.	
v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur	In the period prior to the announcement on 12 November 2013.	
<b>3) Since 7 September 2013, what reviews are on-going? Please list them.</b>	Smarter Schools National Partnerships Impact Evaluation. Evaluation of the More Support for Students with Disabilities.	
<b>4) Since 7 September 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them (and date stopped, paused or ceased).</b>	No.	
<b>5) Since Budget estimates, what reviews have concluded? Please list them (and date they concluded).</b>	The Review of the National Architecture to support delivery of the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC) agreed reforms - concluded on 16 July 2013. The Report of the Early Years Quality Fund Review - concluded on 13 November 2013.	
<b>6) Since 7 September 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.</b>	The Report of the Early Years Quality Fund Review – provided to Government on 13 November 2013.	
<b>7) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?</b>	The Report of the Early Years Quality Fund Review – the Government tabled the finalised report of the review in Parliament on 12 December.	
<b>8) What reviews are planned?</b>	Two reviews are planned. The answers to questions for each review are outlined below.	
<b>Planned Reviews</b>	Review of the Australian Curriculum.	10 Year Review of Disability Standards for Education.
a. When will each planned review be commenced?	To be determined.	2015 - The Standards require that a review is conducted every 5 years.
b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?	To be determined.	To be confirmed.
c. When will government respond to each review?	To be determined.	To be confirmed.
d. Will the government release each review?	To be determined.	Yes
i. If so, when?		As soon as possible after completion of the review and negotiation with relevant agencies.
ii. If not, why not?		

