

Education and Employment Committee 2020-21 Budget estimates - Questions on Notice Index
 Education, Skills and Employment
 Last updated: 4 December 2020

QON No	PDR No	Spoken / Written	Question Submitted By	Question Date	Hansard Page	Outcome or Agency	Subject	Full Question Text	Date Due
1	SQ20-001754	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	5	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Child Care Subsidy - 2021 administered funding	Dr Baxter: You're referring to 2021 administered funding and you're asking specifically about the Child Care Subsidy line item? Senator KENEALLY: Yes. Dr Baxter: In 2021, the increase in Program 1.2, which is Child Care Subsidy, is primarily the result of a number of factors. A \$165.9 million increase is due to higher price and demand observed in year-to-date actuals to December 2019, prior to COVID-19. As you know, it's an estimate that we make. It's a projection we make at the beginning of a financial year about what we think is going to be happening, based on where we've seen demand go. So, \$165.9 million relates to that. The \$66.6 million is an increase due to a reduction in Treasury's forecasts of wage growth. Where families' wages are lower than previously projected they're entitled to more CCS funding. As you know, the Child Care Subsidy system directs funding to the lowest income earners. A \$5.6 million decrease due to the new arrangements for CCS. This is specifically a change in the method of reconciling income against CCS entitlements for those customers with changes in relationships. This is the part-year partner change we made to respond to some of the concerns from families in the sector. A \$75 million net increase for some ons and offs related to how the COVID measures came on and went off. I can detail those if you would like me to? Senator KENEALLY: Maybe we will do that on notice, in the interests of time.	10/12/2020
2	SQ20-001756	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	6	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Child Care Subsidy - Higher prices/demand	Senator KENEALLY: With the \$165 million, which you said is made up of both an assumption about higher prices- Dr Baxter: Higher price/demand. It is a higher price for the subsidy, which is driven by demand in the system-demand for more child care. Senator KENEALLY: In the interests of time, is there anything you can table that would help us understand how you've come to those assumptions about higher prices/demand? Dr Baxter: There's nothing that I can table. I can certainly take on notice to see if we have something that explains it. Effectively we have a child care model, as you know, which simulates a full year of child care data. That includes demand. It includes shifts you see up and down in demand from time to time. Senator KENEALLY: Presumably it includes assumptions, say, from Treasury and others about employment? Dr Baxter: Our model does not include that- Senator KENEALLY: And wages. Dr Baxter: I will have to come back to you about the elements that make up that specific demand, but I'm happy to take that on notice.	10/12/2020
3	SQ20-001757	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	10	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Transition grant payments	Senator FARUQI: How many instances of that have there been over the last few months for that payment where services have come back to you and said, 'You've calculated it wrong?' Ms Pearce: Quite a small number, but I don't have them with me. Senator FARUQI: Could you take that on notice?	10/12/2020
4	SQ20-001758	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	12	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Payments provided to Services Australia	Senator FARUQI: I understand that. I'm just concerned about the payments being made. When the payments are made to services is it made clear what the payments are for? Dr Baxter: Yes. Senator FARUQI: Or is it just a sum of money that is deposited within the service? Is it made clear that, say, the \$10,000 is the transition payment, and another \$10,000 is the CCS top up? Is that made clear? That's what I'm getting at. Is that made clear to Services Australia as well in the file that's provided? Dr Baxter: It is certainly made clear to Services Australia. We can take on notice to tell you what we understand lands as a tag in the person's account. I do know with the transition payments one of the things we did for clarity-and in fact with the relief package as well-is we separated out the normal payment run of, 'Here's your weekly relief payment. Here's your weekly transition payment'-from what we called internally the ad hoc run. That was, 'I need to get a bit of extra top up for this because I started a bit later or in the middle of a period. I didn't get my agreement back till later so I have a funny piece hanging off.' So that people would get used to what is their weekly amount and also understand the ad hoc run we ran those at different times so they were received separately. We explained that to people in communication as well. We can take on notice to find out what we can about what's the tag that lands for them. Senator FARUQI: That would be great. Dr Baxter: But we did lots of this explanation in webinars, Q&A sessions-a whole range of things. People asked these questions and we worked through and explained it. Senator FARUQI: Could you just take that on notice? Dr Brumges: If there's any particular case you have, we're more than happy to follow through on that, but we were absolutely determined to have that clear line of sight between us and Services Australia. As I said, the communications strategy that supported was very well received in terms of all of the webinars and the people participating. If there's any particular case- Senator FARUQI: That's fine, but I would like on notice how it was deposited, how it was explained, what you provided to Services Australia and whether they had clear indications of what it was. As to the \$708 million that was set aside for the transition payments, how much of that was spent between 13 July and 27 September?	10/12/2020
5	SQ20-001759	Spoken	Sue Lines	28/10/2020	17	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Child Care Package evaluation report	Senator LINES: The minister said here that we will see further reports between that date of August 2019 and you're now saying March of 2021. But what you've just told me in evidence is that they won't be publicly released? Dr Baxter: I have not said that. I have said- Senator LINES: You said it was up to the government after March 2021? Dr Baxter: There are these subcomponents-I have just mentioned one of them-the In Home Care evaluation, of which we have received a draft. The In Home Care evaluation is anticipated to be finalised in October or November. Decisions about its publication, decisions about any part of the evaluation's publication, will be a decision for government. Senator LINES: Why don't you just set down on notice for us when you expect these subcomponents and when they will be delivered to government, to save time? Dr Baxter: Certainly.	10/12/2020
6	SQ20-001760	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	22	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	ABS labour force data	Dr Baxter: We do have some ABS labour force data that might help you in lieu of a census, Senator. Senator FARUQI: You might provide that notice, if that's all right. Dr Baxter: Sure. It does indicate that there's been an increase in educators employed across all sectors between February and August of this year. Senator FARUQI: If you could just provide that on notice, that would be great. Moving on to another topic-	10/12/2020
7	SQ20-001761	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	23	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Disrupted early learning	Senator FARUQI: As you'll know, many children had disrupted early learning, obviously, in 2020 and are not on track to achieve the 600 hours of early learning in the year before starting school. What analysis has the department done on how many children will meet or will not meet that benchmark of 600 hours of preschool in the year before they start school because of what happened in 2020? Dr Baxter: We have done some work on this and we have looked at this closely with the sector, because they've been discussing this issue with us. I'd have to take on notice the data that we have on-	10/12/2020
8	SQ20-001762	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	25	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Childcare workforce that held a temporary visa	Senator KENEALLY: ... Do you have any figures as to the extent last year of the childcare workforce that held a temporary visa? Dr Baxter: I'll check what data I have with me, if we have anything on that. Otherwise I can check it on notice for you. No, I don't have it here. I can take that on notice. We may have some through our surveys that we undertook during the COVID period. We don't have it here in the ABS number data but we might have some through our COVID surveys. Senator KENEALLY: Could I ask for that on notice? Dr Baxter: Yes.	10/12/2020
9	SQ20-001764	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	26	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Border closures impact on labour force	Senator KENEALLY: I'm very interested because we've got seven per cent of all childcare workers on a temporary visa. If we take in permanent visas, so temporary and permanent, about 26 per cent of the childcare workforce are on a visa; they're not citizens. So I'm really quite interested in the extent to which border closures are impacting on labour force supply and particularly, then, what is being done to train and prepare Australian workers to be able to take up what will be vacancies. Particularly if the demand that you've projected for next year does eventuate, we're going to need more workers. And if the international borders remain closed before there is a vaccine in place, we need to know where those workers are coming from. Dr Baxter: I'm happy to take it on notice. We'll take it on notice and look at the pulse surveys that we've done to see if we can-	10/12/2020
10	SQ20-001766	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	26-27	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Are you monitoring the supply and demand of the early education and care workforce?	Senator KENEALLY: That's right. That's where the vector is, isn't it: when the demand returns but the borders remain closed so we're not getting in those working holiday-makers and students? Dr Baxter: Yes. Senator KENEALLY: My question was, more broadly: are you monitoring the supply and demand of that workforce as a whole? Dr Baxter: Yes. Senator KENEALLY: So you're doing that. Is there anything you can point us to? Is there anything you can table to give us an indication of what that's showing? Dr Baxter: I think we'll look on notice at what we have. I don't have in front of me-	10/12/2020
11	SQ20-001770	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	30	DESE - Schools	COVID relief funding for schools	Senator KENEALLY: So if we take a system like the Victorian Catholic system that rejected the offer, or declined to take it up on the basis of health advice, doesn't that mean they just simply weren't able to access financial relief? Isn't that the case? Ms Gordon: Senator, this was a timing issue. With the schools that opted for the earlier funds it wasn't a case of additional funding being provided; it was just a cash-flow question. So the Victorian Catholic system didn't indicate it was in need of cash-flow relief at the time. Senator KENEALLY: Was that their advice to you? Did they say: 'We're not taking this up because we don't need cash-flow relief,' or did they say: 'We're not taking this up because we're not going to open up based on health advice?' Ms Gordon: I'd need to take on notice exactly the communication they provided at the time.	10/12/2020
12	SQ20-001771	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	31	DESE - Schools	COVID-19 case at independent school	Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Has a COVID-19 case been detected at any independent school that took up the government's offer? Ms Gordon: I would need to take that one on notice. We don't have a list of schools in which COVID cases have occurred, so we would need to seek that advice.	10/12/2020

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13	SQ20-001774	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	35	DESE - Schools	Funds to support the impacts or disruption from COVID-19	<p>Senator FARUQI: Could you tell me then, Ms Gordon, how much money is there in this year's budget to basically overcome the impacts that I'm just talking about? How much new money is there in this year's budget for public schools?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: For public schools there's I'd need to find the number-</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Over and above what's done every year.</p> <p>Ms Gordon: There are a number of initiatives that are not specifically for public schools but generally to support the school sector.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: If you could provide those on notice that would be great, because my time is limited.</p>	10/12/2020
14	SQ20-001776	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	37	DESE - Schools	Clontarf Foundation	<p>Senator FARUQI: As far as I understand, then, that's 55 and 54 for boys and girls through NIAA. Is there an additional 39.8 for Aboriginal boys' education through the Clontarf Foundation?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: That Indigenous Advancement Strategy includes the Clontarf Foundation program as well.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: The 54 includes the Clontarf Foundation?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'd need to take that on notice because I'm not sure of the time frame. Obviously that new money is going forward. So I don't know whether these figures are for-</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: If you could provide those figures, that would be-</p> <p>Ms Gordon: Absolutely. But there were a number of programs-some which target boys and some which target girls.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: I just want to make sure that there is money provided. It's great that Aboriginal-that there is money for Aboriginal boys, but there should be at least equivalent, if not more, because we know what the gender inequalities are. I just want-</p>	10/12/2020
15	SQ20-001777	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	37	DESE - Schools	Stars Foundation	<p>Senator FARUQI: Clarity would be good, because I understand that groups like the Stars Foundation provide really good support for Aboriginal girls. Was there anything in the budget for the Stars Foundation for Aboriginal girls' education?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: Not in our portfolio.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Was there anything last year?</p> <p>Dr Brunings: We might have to check NIAA, Senator.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: If you could check that</p> <p>Dr Brunings: Yes, we'll take that on notice and check with NIAA.</p>	10/12/2020
16	SQ20-001778	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	37-38	DESE - Schools	Respect Matters funding	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Right. And then the 2020 portfolio budget statement for those same years shows funding at 1.36 million? It's on page 42.</p> <p>Ms Gordon: That would be the issue that we were talking about-timing. The funding has been subsequently put back and the full amount will be visible in the PAES-the portfolio additional estimates.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: When did you make that decision to bring the funding back? I think you said, Minister, it would be in the upcoming MYEFO.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Portfolio additional estimates statements.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: When did you make the decision that you would bring the funding back?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: The decision will be reflected in those, I should say.</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'd need to take it on notice about the exact timing.</p>	10/12/2020
17	SQ20-001781	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	39-40	DESE - Schools	2020 budget measure student support package	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: In my exhaustive study of the 2020 budget-and I had the yellow highlighter out-I stopped on pages 81-82-the 2020 budget measure student support package. There was 25 million over five years from 2020-21 to establish a fund to enable the government to respond flexibly and quickly to emerging priorities and educational challenges presented by COVID-19. The budget included 25 million over five years. Could you please break down how the funding is distributed across the forward estimates?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'd need to take that-I'm fairly certain it says five million each year for the five years.</p>	10/12/2020
18	SQ20-001752	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	41-42	DESE - Schools	25 Million Budget Measure - Initial Advice	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Whose idea was the setting up of the fund in the first place?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: It was a budget decision.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Was it the minister, the bureaucracy or Joe Blow who had an idea?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'd need to take on notice where the original initial advice came from. Certainly, we'd been in discussions with the minister about some of the likely issues emerging in terms of educational impacts. As I talked about earlier in the hearing, this morning, we had commissioned some early research on potential implications for the extended periods of home based learning. That research clearly indicated that there were likely impacts that would be felt. It was clear that there will be issues arising from the experience this year, and this fund provides some flexibility; as it becomes clear what those issues are and where the biggest concerns are, this funding will enable some flexible responses to those. Some of the areas that might come into scope would be things like educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. There's some evidence in that we've been getting feedback from education authorities that a number of Aboriginal students who were attending boarding school and went home to community haven't returned to school. Clearly-</p>	10/12/2020
19	SQ20-001753	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	43	DESE - Schools	Beyond Blue liaison officers - specific schools	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I will move on to bushfire and drought recovery funding. The government announced that it would spend an additional \$8 million for mental health support through Beyond Blue to fund an extra 25 Beyond Blue liaison officers to work with local schools and early childhood services in bushfire-affected communities. Officers were placed in the following locations: within New South Wales, it was regions defined by local health districts-northern New South Wales, Hunter-New England, mid-North Coast, Nepean-Blue Mountains, Illawarra-Shoalhaven, southern New South Wales and Murrumbidgee. In Victoria it was regions defined by the primary health network-Gippsland-Mallacoota, Ovens-Murray and Snowy Valley. In South Australia it was Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills. In Queensland it was the north and south coasts. Can the department advise which specific schools were assigned Beyond Blue liaison officers?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: We'd need to take that on notice for the specific schools. I don't have that information with me today.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Can you advise how many schools received liaison officers? Ms Gordon: I'm not sure that I have that to hand.</p> <p>Dr Brunings: Perhaps we can take that on notice. My recollection is that there were 25 and I think some of them served a number of different schools. I think it was both hub and spoke but I would need to take that on notice because we work with our colleagues in the Department of Health who are already providing some places with some counselling and support and in other places there wasn't. I think I remember hearing there were a number of schools attached to some of those counsellors. But we're happy to take it on notice, if the team don't have it up there.</p> <p>Ms Angus: We do have that there were 25 contact liaison officers; so that number is correct. They are working closely with local schools and early childhood services in bushfire-affected communities. But the specific schools we haven't got.</p> <p>Dr Brunings: Can I just say that what might happen is that they might be based in a high school somewhere and then servicing the feeder primary schools, for example. We'll just go back and check on that and see what information we can give you.</p>	10/12/2020
20	SQ20-001755	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	43-44	DESE - Schools	Beyond Blue officers - time spent in schools	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: How much time did the Beyond Blue liaison officers spend in the schools?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: That level of detail we would also need to take on notice, I'm sorry.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Are they still in these schools now?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: Yes. My understanding is that they continue to support those schools. The funding is available over the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years but we'd need to come back to you with the detail.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: So the expectation is that they're still there and will continue to be there into next year?</p> <p>Ms Angus: Yes. Part of the role is for them to continue to support people with the stressors that may be arising as a result of those, and that is the ongoing nature of some of that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Has the \$8 million been fully expended and, if not, how much has been expended?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: The Department of Health actually administers the contract with Beyond Blue because it's an extension of the existing program that they fund; so we've provided the \$8 million to the Department of Health. I'd need to take on notice the extent to which that's been expended.</p>	10/12/2020
21	SQ20-001763	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	44	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - bushfire funding allocation	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Up to \$2 million was allocated for additional school chaplains to be available for the 2020 school year. How much of that \$2 million funding allocation has been spent?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: My understanding is that the full \$2 million was allocated. I'm not sure whether it has all been provided to schools but it has been allocated; so it would flow to schools.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Where is this funding being drawn from?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: It's additional in the way that you've described it in that it is in consolidated revenue or out of the bushfire recovery \$2 billion or the rebudgets that was allocated overall. We can take on notice to provide that detail but I would imagine that, in the way in which you have described it, it would have been out of that overall bushfire package.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: How many requests from state and territory governments did the department receive for additional school chaplains for this year?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'm sorry, are you talking about how many requests for the \$2 million or the overall program? Senator CHISHOLM: Overall.</p> <p>Ms Gordon: With the overall program, they each have a process of identifying schools to participate. I would also need to take that on notice in terms of how many additional schools for this year, sorry.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Have those requests all been accommodated?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: Each state and territory, as part of the agreement, will be aware of how much funding they have available and then they have a process for allocating the funding.</p> <p>Dr Brunings: We've got about 3,000 schools. Ms Angus is telling me that about 3,000 schools each year sign up to a project agreement enabling chaplains. Your question goes to the additional \$2 million for the bushfire affected?</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Angus: I can provide some additional information on that. You are right; there are 3,296 schools receiving the services of the NSCP chaplain in 2020. \$1.65 million in additional funding was provided for school chaplains to support bushfire-affected states that requested additional funding support. That worked out to be 379 schools across New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania, and the average funding per school was \$5,181.</p>	10/12/2020

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22	SQ20-001773	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	45	DESE - Schools	\$20 Million Funding - How many non-government schools received funding under this measure?	Mr Sawade: Funding is allocated at the approved authority level. As Ms Gordon said, there were 250 schools and they were represented by 62 approved authorities or approved system authorities. In the independent sector there were 58 approved authorities that were provided funding and then four systems in the Catholic sector across New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia were provided funding in total. Senator CHISHOLM: So that's systems rather than actual number of schools? Ms Gordon: It's approved authorities, which might be a mix of individual school-approved authorities or an approved system authority. Senator CHISHOLM: Can you actually provide how many non-government schools specifically received funding? Ms Gordon: We would need to take that on notice.	10/12/2020
23	SQ20-001775	Spoken	Janet Rice	28/10/2020	45	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - bushfire affected schools that joined the program	Senator RICE: I also want to follow up on the issue of funding for school chaplains but first I'll follow up on some of the questions that Senator Chisholm asked. The extra \$1.96 million, you've said, went to 379 schools. Were they extra schools or were they already included in the 3,296 schools that were already receiving funding under the school chaplains program? Ms Gordon: As I indicated earlier, my understanding is that a large number of schools used the funding to extend the hours of the current chaplains who were already working in those schools; so you wouldn't be able to just add those on. But the thing that I don't know and I'd need to take on notice is whether there were new schools that joined the program to get assistance through this additional funding but I'm happy to take that on notice.	10/12/2020
24	SQ20-001779	Spoken	Janet Rice	28/10/2020	46	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - breakdown of schools by sector	Senator RICE: They were certainly bushfire affected. Can you remind me whether the chaplains program is available to government and non-government schools? Ms Gordon: That's correct. Senator RICE: Can you give me the breakdown of those 3,296 schools, how many are government schools and how many are non-government schools? Ms Gordon: I think we'd have to take that on notice.	10/12/2020
25	SQ20-001782	Spoken	Janet Rice	28/10/2020	46-47	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - qualifications and employment of chaplains	Senator RICE: But the definition of a chaplain is that they are faith-related. You do not have secular chaplains. You have secular counsellors. Ms Gordon: Under the program, the organisations that deliver chaplains are required to have a faith affiliation. They may choose to employ individuals who are chaplains under the program who may not be a religiously affiliated individual. Senator RICE: Do you have any statistics about how often or how much that occurs? Ms Gordon: We don't have that information. The program does require those participating as chaplains to have some certification and credentials to support their work. I don't have it to hand, but they are required to have, as I understand it, a cert III certification to be able to be part of the program. Senator RICE: A cert III. Ms Gordon: I don't have it to hand. I might see if one of my staff might be able to send it to me while we are talking. Ms Angus: A range of training is required. In 2019, all states and territories complied with the project agreement and the project requirement has a number of requirements. Those requirements include things like 'chaplains must have completed professional development training to better support students who have experienced cyberbullying' as a particular element. Senator RICE: Can you tell me exactly what professional development training that is-what is the definition of that? Ms Gordon: We might need to take this on notice. We don't have the detail to hand. I don't want to mislead you in trying to answer these questions. Senator RICE: I would appreciate that. Perhaps you could also take on notice what information you have about how many chaplains are employed who are not people of faith. Ms Gordon: Yes. Senator RICE: You have given me the example of organisations who employ secular counsellors. However, can I also confirm that no funding is available for trained nonreligious counsellors and that, basically, all of this funding has to go through those faith based organisations? Ms Gordon: Under this program, that's correct.	10/12/2020
26	SQ20-001790	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	47	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - State and Territory Agreements and guidelines	Senator RICE: You have said 'not proselytising'. There would be a lot of people of faith who would say that discouraging people from affirming their gender identity wasn't proselytising. Is any auditing done of the level of compliance with these guidelines? Ms Angus: On the nature of the auditing, I would have to come back to you with more specific information. But all states and territories complied with the project agreement in 2019. So, yes, for 2019, they all complied. Senator RICE: They all complied, but the federal government hasn't done any audits to see just what that looks like. Ms Angus: No. That's not what I said. I said that I am not sure exactly what the form and function of the auditing was. We would need to come back to you with the detail on that. Ms Gordon: We do require states and territories to provide reports to us as well about the operation of the program. Senator RICE: Are all the guidelines or arrangements that the states and territories have operational within their states with particular schools on the public record? Ms Gordon: I would need to take that on notice. I don't know the answer as to whether their agreements are publicly available. Senator RICE: Please take it on notice. In any case, I would like you to take on notice tabling those agreements. Finally, is the federal government concerned about the risk of informal conversion counselling, given how much we know about students who are struggling with their sexuality or gender identity and the fact that the conversion practices that are of most concern are not out where they are very highly focused; they are informal practices. Some conversations are suggesting to students that they want to go down that track. Is this an issue of concern to the federal department?	10/12/2020
27	SQ20-001794	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	48	DESE - Schools	National School Chaplaincy Program - State and Territory complaint processes and reporting	Senator RICE: What I want to know is: if there's a complaints process in place at the state and territory level, would you then see those complaints, or is it all handled at the state and territory level and you don't have oversight of those? Ms Gordon: We wouldn't necessarily be made aware of the individual details of individual cases of complaints, for privacy reasons and other reasons, but I understand that part of the reporting that comes back to us from states and territories is an overview of the level of complaints. But I would need to take that on notice and come back to you about what that process looks like and the level of reporting back to the Commonwealth. Senator RICE: Please do that, as to what the reporting back to the Commonwealth is. Also, please take on notice any information you have about the level and nature of those complaints. Ms Gordon: We're happy to take those on notice. I'm sorry that we haven't been able to answer all of your questions at this point, but we'll come better prepared next time.	10/12/2020
28	SQ20-001797	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	48	DESE - Schools	Prime Minister's Spelling Bee Competition - website grant	Senator KENEALLY: Have the grant contract terms been amended, given that the 2020 spelling bee has been cancelled? Ms Angus: It has only been postponed. It hasn't been cancelled, it has just been pushed back. Senator KENEALLY: Does that change the grant contract terms at all? Ms Angus: The money has been expended and it has met the accordance of the agreement, which was setting in place the resources and the website and the development work; so they've met the terms of the contract. Senator KENEALLY: So they have done what you asked them to do. Ms Angus: That's right; they've acquitted the contract, as required. Senator KENEALLY: Will you use that work for the spelling bee in 2021, or will you go to a new grant and build a new website? Ms Angus: The establishing of the resource and the building of the platform, et cetera was expected to be an ongoing thing, so we would anticipate that that would be used in 2021. Ms Gordon: Just to clarify, this is a News Corp initiative that we have provided some funding towards. It's not an Australian government initiative, but it's obviously with the support of the Prime Minister. Senator KENEALLY: But it has been deferred. You've agreed to it being deferred to 2021, I presume? Ms Angus: I think it was originally scheduled to have happened in May. Yes, there must have been agreement. Ms Gordon: We would need to take on notice the form of that agreement and the process that was gone through. Senator KENEALLY: It's a News Corp project, not an Australian government project, but done with the support of the Australian government and, you have just indicated, the Prime Minister. Who has carriage of the funding and the contracting? Is it your department, or Prime Minister and Cabinet?	10/12/2020
29	SQ20-001806	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	50	DESE - Schools	Prime Minister's Spelling Bee Competition - registration protocols	Senator KENEALLY: The website also said that 'lots of students and teachers were already registered'. Do you have any idea of how many students or how many teachers were registered? Ms Angus: No, I'm sorry. I don't have that information in front of me. Senator KENEALLY: Have the registrations and the student data from the now cancelled or deferred competition been deleted? Ms Angus: I'm sorry, I don't have that level of detail. My assumption is that they would have been registering with the website that News Corp held. Senator KENEALLY: Would they be registering through their school? Could the school have handed out the forms or directed them to the website? Would they have done it in school? Ms Angus: I'd have to take that on notice to give you more detail. I'm sorry; I just don't have that level of detail. Senator KENEALLY: Would parents have had to have given them permission to register? Dr Brunings: Sometimes that all depends on the age of the child. It's a bit like premiers' reading challenges and so forth that we're all familiar with, where parents actually do register in terms of challenges or spelling bees. If it goes from year 3 to 8, I would imagine the younger students' parents might be involved. But we're happy to take that on notice and get the detail. Senator KENEALLY: I'd be really interested to know how students are registering, if they're registering through the schools, particularly if it was designed to be an in-classroom pedagogic exercise. I am interested in knowing if the registrations have been deleted and who is responsible for either protecting or destroying that data. Ms Angus: Certainly. We'll take that on notice.	10/12/2020

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30	SQ20-001808	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	50-51	DESE - Schools	Prime Minister's Spelling Bee Competition - protecting, storing and deleting student data	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Do you know if News Corp engaged subcontractors for that work, the website-their contracted work?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: Based on the discussion that we had at the last estimate hearings, the code was a subcontractor issue, so I think the answer to that is yes. I'm not sure of the extent to which they've subcontracted the work or the operation of it.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I'm quite interested in whether the department, News Corp or a third party is responsible for protecting, storing or deleting the students' data.</p> <p>Ms Angus: We're certainly happy to take that on notice and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Will extra government funding be required to hold the postponed spelling bee in 2021?</p> <p>Ms Angus: The original grant was a one-off payment. I'm not aware that we've received any further requests for support.</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'm not aware of any requests.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: It's my understanding that all subcontractors do have to be disclosed under the terms of a simple grant contract with the department; is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: I'd need to take that on notice; I'm sorry.</p>	10/12/2020
31	SQ20-002170	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	51	DESE - Schools	Prime Minister's Spelling Bee Competition - protecting, storing and deleting student data	<p>Senator KENEALLY: I appreciate that you have taken on notice the question about what we're doing in this context where students have registered. They may have registered at the urging of their teacher or under a direction in the classroom—I don't know—but, now that this event is not going ahead, or even if it did go ahead, what happens to their data after it's done? Also, really, what kind of data do they have to provide to register?</p> <p>Ms Angus: I'm sorry, we'll have to come back as part of that response.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Is there anything in the simple term grant contract or in the agreement with News Corp that talks about whether or not the data that they've collected can be used for other purposes, such as commercial purposes or targeted advertising?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I think, in those common grants in the guidelines or contracts, there'd be standard clauses that we are asked to use around those aspects. So we'll go and check. As I said, I don't have a copy of the contract here either. But, under procurement rules, there are certain clauses that we must have that would go to privacy issues and so forth. We'll take that on notice and get back to you.</p>	10/12/2020
32	SQ20-002171	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	51	DESE - Schools	Prime Minister's Spelling Bee Competition - protecting, storing and deleting student data	<p>Senator KENEALLY: You mentioned the kids' news website. I must confess, as the mother of now grown adults, I haven't looked at the kids' news website in recent times. Does it have paid advertising?</p> <p>Ms Angus: I'm sorry, I don't have that information.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Right. There's a lot that we don't know about this. Does the department have any process that it would usually use to determine that no third party's interests would be affected by the making of the grant to News Corp?</p> <p>Ms Gordon: As the secretary pointed out, we do have standard clauses that go to IT and privacy and security issues. I just don't have the detail of those in front me to be able to give them to you, but we're very happy to take them on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
33	SQ20-001812	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	52-53	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	National Review of School Architecture Report - 12 December 2019 meeting	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Going back to that 12 December meeting where the Education Council considered the report, there was a story in the Sydney Morning Herald in November last year that quotes from that report verbatim, which seems to suggest that somehow the media got hold of it before the Education Council met. I'm curious: when did ACARA first see a copy of the report that went to the meeting on 12 December?</p> <p>Mr de Carvalho: I'd have to take on notice the precise date, Senator, but it would have been some time before that meeting. We would have seen a draft.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Your memory is that you would have seen it before the meeting on 12 December? Mr de Carvalho: Yes. I would have to check that, Senator, but that is my recollection.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I may need to supply you with something as well. I'll come back to you with the date on which the media article appeared. It was in November. I'll try to come back to you before we wrap up here with the date on which that appeared. I'd be particularly keen to know if you found out after the media had a copy of that report. I am sorry, I do have the date: 27 November 2019 was the date of that media report. I'd be keen to know if ACARA had a copy of it before or after that. By that I mean no implication that ACARA was the source of the media story. I'm just keen to know if the media had it before you did.</p> <p>Mr de Carvalho: I cannot recall exactly, Senator. I can recall that I was surprised and obviously disappointed that the story was in the media.</p>	10/12/2020
34	SQ20-001784	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	56	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Revenue lost for universities	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Sure. Mr English, do you have a figure for the loss of revenue for the next year, other than international?</p> <p>Mr English: For the next year? No, I wouldn't have a number that I would give the committee that I think represents a- Senator KIM CARR: Sorry, there are two questions there. Do you have a number, and is it a number that you'll give to the committee? I'm happy for you to give me the number you've got.</p> <p>Mr English: I can tell you what, if they lost 10 per cent of those international partner numbers, that would equate to, for example, Senator KIM CARR: Yes, what is that number? Mr English: Let me find that detail. I may have to take that on notice, to be blunt.</p>	10/12/2020
35	SQ20-001785	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	58	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Enrolment patterns for universities	<p>Senator KIM CARR: We'll go around this again. Do you have any expectation of when we can see a return to normal enrolment patterns, because this is clearly not a normal enrolment pattern?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I think it's very hard to predict, as you rightly say—and I think as Mr Heferen put out—and the return of international students is a big factor in what might happen. What we're seeing year to date—August 2020—is that international student commencements have declined by 18 per cent on the same period in 2019.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Professor Simon Marginson suggested looking at a five to 10-year period before we can look at half a million international students coming per year. What do you say to that estimate? Do you think that's reasonable?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: There'd be some assumptions, I presume, that Professor Marginson has got under that. One would be looking at the flow-on effect—that is, students that haven't come this year and what happens in years 2, 3 and 4. There's an accumulation effect, I think, that would be factored into that, again, depending on the assumptions that he's made about when he expects that half million to return. I haven't looked at the detail.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you take that on notice? Dr Bruniges: I'm happy to look at that.</p>	10/12/2020
36	SQ20-001786	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	62	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Charles Sturt University audit report	<p>Senator FARUQI: Thanks, Minister. I just want to go to an audit of Charles Sturt University. There were allegations regarding systemic financial issues. You might remember the Canberra Times in October reported that in June the university's council passed a resolution to conduct an audit and provide a report to the Australian and New South Wales governments. Does the government have a copy of that audit report?</p> <p>Mr English: No, we don't.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: So the government doesn't have a report. Does the department have one?</p> <p>Mr English: Sorry, to be very accurate, I do not in my division believe I have a copy of that report. Whether anybody else in government does I would have to take on notice. But an audit report prepared by the New South Wales government for the purposes of advising a New South Wales state instrumentality—for example, a university—would not automatically come to us as matter of course.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: But they did say that they would come to government, and they would provide a report to the Australian government.</p> <p>Mr English: I need to follow that up. I don't have that.</p>	10/12/2020
37	SQ20-001787	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	62-63	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Budget allocation for the Higher Education, Research and International group	<p>Senator FARUQI: In a question on notice that I put during the inquiry into the job-ready graduates I asked for the budget allocation for the higher education, research and international group within the department since 2017-18 and the numbers that were provided to me were tracking down. In 2017-18 it was \$6.8 million and then in 2020-21 it's \$1.5 million. So that's, from what the figures show, a 10 per cent budget loss over four years. Could you tell me why the budget is reducing?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: I think the main reason would be that the group is made up of three divisions and one of them was the strategic policy and analysis division. The strategic policy function, which was a branch in that, we've moved to our corporate enabling group; so the 18 or 20 or so staff have moved, the idea being that the strategic policy function, we thought, would be better to be across the department rather than being located in one of the policy groups. It is more of an enabling function. I'll take it on notice to make sure we give you the precise answer. But at first instance that's the main change that's occurred with staffing and funding for the- Senator FARUQI: That's the strategic policy unit for the higher education, research and international group? Mr Heferen: No, strategic policy function for the department. Senator FARUQI: So that was in your unit? Mr Heferen: It was just as a matter from the past—balancing workloads and a range of other matters. We got to the stage where, particularly with the combined department, with education and skills and employment, we felt there was a need to ensure that the strategic policy function was appropriately set. When it was in my group it did do the cross-departmental work, but it was important to have it to ensure that everything was aligned to make sure that the strategic policy function is connected across the entirety of what the department is responsible for. Senator FARUQI: When did that happen? Mr Heferen: The precise date I'll have to take on notice. Dr Bruniges: The machinery-in-government change came about on 1 February this year. My recollection is that we decided, once we knew, to move that unit. The unit Mr Heferen is talking to does things like indigenous policy. It touches early childhood, schools, higher ed, employment and skills, so it was better positioned as an enabling service across the entirety. We will go away and find out exactly the quantum of money. I am sure that accounts for the 18 or 20 staff that we moved.</p>	10/12/2020
38	SQ20-001789	Spoken	Claire Chandler	28/10/2020	65	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Student services and amenities fee	<p>Senator CHANDLER: How many institutions chose not to charge the SSAA fee or reduce the fee in light of COVID-19?</p> <p>Mr English: I would have to take that on notice at this point, unless my colleague knows anything. We would have to see what comes in the financial returns from the sector for this year when it comes.</p>	10/12/2020

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39	SQ20-001791	Spoken	Claire Chandler	28/10/2020	65	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Groups who can receive funding via the Student services and amenities fee	Senator CHANDLER: Aside from student unions, what other types of groups can receive funding via the student services and amenities fee? Mr English: I might hand over. Mr Coburn: I don't have the legislation directly in front of me. We can provide on notice the specifics. But, broadly speaking, the restrictions on the use of the SSFA relate to the purpose of the provision of the funding, not specific organisations. One of the probably most important restrictions is that it can't be used to support, for example, political activity or political candidates outside the university context.	10/12/2020
40	SQ20-001793	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	69	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job-ready Graduates Package influence on enrolment trends	Senator KENEALLY: Exactly. Let's leave that there, because I have some questions about the impacts of the change. Has the department been monitoring applications to see if the announcement of the Job-ready Graduates Package is influencing enrolment trends? Mr Heferen: I'll just make the observation that, in regard to the information in at the moment, the tertiary admission centres will have some early indications, but, in the context of the numbers we'd expect to enrol, I think it's far too early to draw any kind of conclusions. We're looking at the TAC information with interest. Where some universities encouraged students to apply directly, we're also looking at that with interest. Senator KENEALLY: Have you received application data from Queensland universities from semester 3, 2020, through to semester 2, 2021? Mr English: I think we've got some early data from the tertiary admission centres, but I'd have to take that on notice. As Mr Heferen said, it's very early in the application cycle.	10/12/2020
41	SQ20-001795	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	70	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job-ready graduates package grandfathering arrangements	Dr Bruniings: Senator, if I can add another point there: for 2021, when you take into account the grandfathering arrangements adopted as part of the package, only 16 per cent of students are expected to face an increase in fees in 2021, leaving 84 per cent of students having a decrease. So when you take into account the grandfathering, all the students who are currently in the system. Senator KENEALLY: Where is that data from-is that department analysis? Dr Bruniings: Yes, Senator. Senator KENEALLY: Is it possible for that to be tabled for us? Dr Bruniings: The analysis? We'll take it on notice. Senator.	10/12/2020
42	SQ20-002018	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	71	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job-ready Graduates Package - New places	Senator KENEALLY: I'm happy for you to take the next one on notice because of time. The initial announcement of the Job-ready Graduates Package on 19 June promised 39,000 new places by 2023 and 100,000 new places over 10 years. Could you provide a breakdown of how many new places will be created each calendar year for 2023 and over the 10 years? Mr English: Yes. Senator KENEALLY: I'm happy for you to take that on notice given the time. Mr English: We've actually answered this on notice previously, but the- Senator KENEALLY: Great. If you just want to share it with the secretariat, that's fine. Mr English: Yes.	10/12/2020
43	SQ20-001798	Spoken	Sarah Hanson-Young	28/10/2020	76	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Closure of courses relating to creative arts and theatre	Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Have you been made aware of any courses relating to creative arts and theatre across the country that are being closed? Mr English: I would have to take on notice to check all sources of correspondence that we receive from universities, either directly to me, the executive or the minister, but I cannot recall a specific example of a theatre course being put in front of us.	10/12/2020
44	SQ20-001799	Spoken	Sarah Hanson-Young	28/10/2020	76	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Arts and entertainment industry	Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Thank you. I would like you to take on notice whether any of the universities have alerted you to closures and suspensions of courses, but I would also like to know whether the minister for arts made any approach to the education department or, indeed, the education minister in relation to the students within this sector of the economy, given the huge hit that the arts and entertainment industry has had across the country because of COVID. Have you had any representations for the minister for arts for how crippled his own sector is? Mr English: I'd have to take that on notice.	10/12/2020
45	SQ20-001801	Spoken	Rex Patrick	28/10/2020	77	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	HECS-HELP scheme	Senator PATRICK: I think you said \$2.9 million: how many people are there altogether? How many Australians altogether have utilised the HECS-HELP scheme? You might need to take that on notice. Dr Bruniings: Yes, we might. Senator PATRICK: Thank you.	10/12/2020
46	SQ20-001802	Spoken	Perin Davey	28/10/2020	77-78	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Professional pathways for psychologists and social workers	Senator DAVEY: I know that one of the goals for developing these professional pathways is to address a severe shortage of psychologists and social workers in regional areas. One of the saving graces, I guess you could say, in regional areas is that where you don't have access to registered social workers or clinical psychologists you may have access to counsellors, and they're a very important tool to address mental health issues. I note that there is the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia. Would they be one of the professional associations that the working group would consult with, maybe to identify whether there are relevant modules that would fall into a professional pathway? Mr English: If I can find the list of people consulted, I'll tell you. I may take that group on notice, if that's all right. Senator? In the couple of meetings that we've had there were up to 10 professional groups and I can't recall in my brain more than two or three of the biggest ones, I'll be honest. I'll check on that one for you.	10/12/2020
47	SQ20-001804	Spoken	Perin Davey	28/10/2020	78	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Regional University Centres	Senator DAVEY: Do we have any monitoring data on those Regional University Centres? I know anecdotally, through my offices, that a lot of year 12 graduates still want to go to university-in particular, regional kids. For professional development or maybe mature-age students or a second degree, when people have already settled in a region a deterrent for them is that they would have to move off to a university. Do we have any data to look at who is making the best use of the Regional University Centres? Mr English: I might take that on notice. We are building as the network grows and settles in. To be fair, the COVID disruption affected some of our operations quite a bit. But we are building a data collection process that will start to explore that difference. I agree that it is probably not the solution for 18-year-olds unless they are in a circumstance where maybe they have caring responsibilities or family circumstances wouldn't support moving anyway. But we do think it's much more mixed. That's why Cooms, as an example, started as a partnership with local council and local employers like Snowy Hydro, because it was actually supporting workers in the region who were full-time working and then didn't want to have the transit time to come to Canberra based universities, for example, or that wasn't their choice. At this point I couldn't give you that breakdown, but we'll see what we can get for you.	10/12/2020
48	SQ20-001805	Spoken	Perin Davey	28/10/2020	79	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Courses Indigenous students are electing to study	Senator DAVEY: Obviously they're enrolling across the board, but what are the predominant courses that our Indigenous students are electing to study when they get to higher education? Have we got any data on that? It would be interesting to see if the other changes that seem to have concerned a lot of people have a flow-on effect. Mr English: I'd need to take the particular data on notice, but I can talk about the nature of what that data will show, which is that we have seen, historically, that Indigenous enrolments were mainly in community services and health and those sorts of activities. As far back as the Behrendt review of about 10 years ago, it's been an ambition that we've been talking to the sector about to lift the breadth, the variety and, particularly, the economic outcomes from Indigenous enrolments. So we have seen a steady increase in, particularly, STEM related enrolments amongst Indigenous students over the last 10 years. Again, we would hope to see that diversification of the professional outcomes that Indigenous students achieve from higher education would be encouraged by the new price model. But I'll take on notice the actual data and provide it.	10/12/2020
49	SQ20-001765	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	80-81	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Departmental briefings to Ms Rebekha Sharkie and Centre Alliance in relation to the bill	Senator KENEALLY: I want to ask some questions in relation to the higher education legislation recently passed by the Senate. On how many occasions did the department brief Ms Rebekha Sharkie and Centre Alliance in relation to the bill? Mr English: The department didn't brief Ms Sharkie, to my knowledge. Senator KENEALLY: You did not? Mr English: No. Senator KENEALLY: Or anyone from Centre Alliance? Mr English: I'd have to take on notice whether there were any discussions with advisers that we were present for. I can't recall that. We certainly briefed Ms Piibersek and her staff at one point. I can't recall if I briefed somebody from Ms Sharkie's office at the same time. I'd have to check.	10/12/2020
50	SQ20-001767	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	81	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Discussions between members of the government and Centre Alliance in relation to the legislation	Senator KENEALLY: Minister, what discussions took place between members of the government and Centre Alliance in relation to this legislation? ... Senator KENEALLY: Can you take it on notice to confirm that. Senator Birmingham: I can take it on notice to confirm that. But if Ms Sharkie or other crossbench members wanted a briefing with the minister's office, I'm sure it would be accommodated. ... Senator KENEALLY: We don't know for certain that she met with the minister's office, but, Minister, can you take on notice whether or not Ms Sharkie conveyed to the minister, either in writing or verbally, that she thought these changes were grossly unfair and she had serious concerns. Senator Birmingham: I can take it on notice, but I don't want to create an expectation that, in responses to questions on notice, we are going to reveal the content of discussions between members of parliament. ... Senator KENEALLY: ...Can you provide on notice, Minister, the times and dates of the meetings that the member for Mayo had with the minister or his office in relation to this legislation. On Tuesday 6 October 2020, the member for Mayo announced that Centre Alliance would support the government's higher education legislation despite her previous opposition and despite some of those same concerns remaining unaddressed. Minister, when and how did the government become aware that it had secured Centre Alliance support for that bill? Senator Birmingham: I'll have to take that on notice.	10/12/2020

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51	SQ20-001768	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	81-82	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Funding for projects in Mayo	<p>Senator KENEALLY: On the same day that the member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie, announced Centre Alliance's support for the government's higher education bill, she also issued a media release announcing she had negotiated and secured \$40 million in the budget for her electorate. Was the funding for \$40 million worth of projects in Mayo discussed during negotiations in relation to the bill?</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Can you take that on notice, please. Ms Sharkie insists in her media release in relation to this \$40 million worth of funding: "Centre Alliance's balance of power position in the Senate has meant that we can advocate for the best results for South Australia and Mayo in our negotiations with Government."</p> <p>Minister, why would Centre Alliance's balance of power in the Senate have factored in the government's decision to provide \$40 million in taxpayer funding?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I've taken the question on notice in relation to those matters.</p>	10/12/2020
52	SQ20-001769	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	82-83	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Academic freedom legislation	<p>Mr English: The minister wrote to providers on 6 April 2019 to encourage their adoption of the model freedom of speech code that French had developed. It was referred—and I can find some dates for this—to the Higher Education Standards Panel to consider the proposed changes to the higher education standards and the legislation that had been identified in the French report, alongside that. Consideration was undertaken. There was consultation with the sector through the balance of this year. Advice was received from the Higher Education Standards Panel about the change to the standards and the change to the legislation, and the minister has determined that we should proceed with amending the legislation in the form that was brought this morning, I think.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: When did the minister determine that?</p> <p>Mr English: I'd need to take that on notice, Senator, I think.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: But when did the legislation go to cabinet? I'm not asking what was discussed. I just want to know when it went to cabinet.</p> <p>Mr English: I'd need to take that consideration on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
53	SQ20-001772	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	83	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Chronology of French review	<p>Senator KENEALLY: So there wasn't an announcement about this legislation until it was in the media on 29 September that the government had done a deal with One Nation to legislate the academic freedom definition and One Nation would support their university legislation?</p> <p>Mr English: This amendment has been on the business list as an A-status bill for some months. The minister commissioned consultation on French's proposed amendments to the Higher Education Support Act through the department, which gave stakeholders until 24 February 2020 to provide feedback on the proposed amendments. I'm happy to take that on notice and give you a full chronology of the steps taken around the French-Senator KENEALLY: That would be great.</p> <p>Mr English: model code and the legislation, but this process has been underway for two years.</p>	10/12/2020
54	SQ20-001780	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	84	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Universities access to JobKeeper arrangements	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I just wanted to ask some questions about JobKeeper. Whose decision was it to exclude universities from accessing JobKeeper arrangements?</p> <p>Dr Bruinings: These are questions for Treasury. They're responsible for the JobKeeper policy.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Was your department consulted at all on the JobKeeper scheme?</p> <p>Dr Bruinings: I'd have to go back and have a look and see whether or not we were consulted on any of that policy work.</p>	10/12/2020
55	SQ20-001783	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	86	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Correspondence with One Nation senators regarding Job-ready Graduates package or freedom of speech at universities	<p>Senator KENEALLY: ... Minister, did the government or the department ever write to One Nation senators about the Job-ready Graduates Package or freedom of speech at universities?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I don't know.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Does the department know? Did they ever write to One Nation senators about those two subjects?</p> <p>Mr English: The department did not.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Right. Minister, can I ask you to take on notice if the government did; and, if so, when?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: You can put anything on notice, and it's duly done.</p>	10/12/2020
56	SQ20-001788	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	88	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Higher Education Integrity Unit	<p>Prof. Saunders: We have responded to that sort of question in our questions on notice. I think, from the last estimates. We were informed by the department of the wish to proceed to develop a Higher Education Integrity Unit within TEQSA in early 2020. Around January 2020 was when the conversation started seriously.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I'm happy for you to take this on notice: can you tell us how many meetings occurred between December 2019 and 24 June, when the unit was announced.</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: Certainly, we can take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
57	SQ20-001792	Spoken	Kristina Keneally	28/10/2020	88	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	TEQSA's use of labour hire	<p>Senator KENEALLY: ... I want to go to another question, which is in relation to TEQSA's use of labour hire. I note that a recent job advertisement from TEQSA on the APS Jobs website for an assessment manager/senior assessment manager says:</p> <p>"TEQSA, like all Commonwealth Government Agencies, is required to stay within a staffing cap. This means there is a limit to the number of people we can employ as Australian Public Servants (APS). If our staffing cap does not allow us to employ people as APS employees, we utilise a third party labour hire company."</p> <p>How many people does TEQSA currently engage through third-party labour hire companies?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I'll have to refer that to Mr Olliphant for the detail.</p> <p>Mr Olliphant: I might have to take that on notice. It's a specific number. In terms of overall use of contractors, it was much higher two years ago when we probably would've had 20 to 25 contractors. That number has reduced significantly. I think our recent budget probably only had approval for three contractors. I think the number is higher now, principally because of COVID and the timing of the recruitment actions to put people into permanent positions and then not use contractors. However, in terms of this specific number we have at the moment, I will take it on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
58	SQ20-001796	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	89	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Council minutes of Charles Sturt University	<p>Senator FARUQI: The lack of university council minutes from Charles Sturt has been raised in the media. Is that a concern for TEQSA, in terms of universities meeting their transparency obligations?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: They were made available to us. Whether or not council minutes-Senator FARUQI: Publicly available? Were they publicly available?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I'm not sure. I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
59	SQ20-001800	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	90	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Compliance assessments	<p>Senator FARUQI: So how many compliance assessments have you conducted, let's say, in 2019?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I don't have those figures in front of me at the moment.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Roughly?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: Allstar, do you have those figures?</p> <p>Mr Maclean: No, I don't have those figures to hand. We can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Sure. Would you know roughly in how many compliance assessments in 2019 you actively engaged with the governing bodies?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: We can take that on notice too.</p>	10/12/2020
60	SQ20-001803	Spoken	Mehreen Faruqi	28/10/2020	90-92	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Murdoch University's compliance assessment	<p>Senator FARUQI: ... I want to go now specifically to Murdoch University's compliance assessment. You have completed that, I think, just this month, on international students.</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: Yes.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Did TEQSA communicate with any staff other than members of the Murdoch University senior executive group or their direct reports in the process of carrying out that compliance assessment?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: You've just completed that process. Do you know if there was anyone outside the senior executive team or their staff that you talked to? Surely you can remember.</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: Well, I didn't personally undertake the investigation.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: I know, but you were responsible for it. I understand that.</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I certainly know that the chancellor was involved in some of those discussions.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Okay, so could you take that on notice. As part of the assessment, did TEQSA interview the Four Corners whistleblowers or the Four Corners journalist or producer or other Murdoch University staff who are on the public record supporting the concerns expressed by the Four Corners whistleblowers?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I'd have to take that on notice to give you a detailed answer about that, Senator. I can tell you, though, that the focus of the assessment was on the allegations that had been made, rather than the processes of Murdoch in terms of those allegations, the whistleblowing matters and those sorts of things within the university. Our investigation was: were international students admitted contrary to the policies and procedures of the university?</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: There was reference in the Murdoch University Four Corners episode to a dossier compiled by admissions staff of examples of students admitted which were very concerning to the staff. Did TEQSA seek to verify the existence of this dossier or obtain access to the information?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: I would have to take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: So you remember nothing about this particular case, it seems?</p> <p>Prof. Saunders: It's not my memory at fault here. I do not have that information in front of me. I did not conduct the compliance assessment.</p>	10/12/2020
61	SQ20-001813	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	96	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Report outlining proposed reforms of Australia's national architecture for schooling	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: When did you first see a copy of the report?</p> <p>Mr Grant: I couldn't give you the date that happened, I'm sorry.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Was it before that meeting on 12 December 2019?</p> <p>Mr Grant: My recollection is that it was before, and some time after the papers for that meeting would have been circulated by the Education Council secretary. I'm sorry I can't be any more precise than that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Could you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Grant: I could take it on notice. My recollection is that we received it, as more than 100 recipients did, in that distribution process. But I'll see what my records have and come back to you.</p>	10/12/2020
62	SQ20-001814	Spoken	Anthony Chisholm	28/10/2020	97	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	AITSL's annual budget and staffing level	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: What is AITSL's annual budget and staffing level?</p> <p>Mr Grant: If Mr Abell can hear me, I might get him to answer on the budget piece. The employee annual staffing level cap for AITSL is currently 71.2, and the budget from recollection—if Mr Abell can hear me—is approximately \$22.5 million. Can you hear me there?</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: I should add that I was interested in whether that's grown or contracted since your inception as well—both staffing and budget.</p> <p>Mr Grant: Since our inception—okay, I would take that on notice. That's a 10-year history there. I'm sorry. I'll take that on notice. I was just going to ask if Mr Abell could hear and say anything, but it looks like he may still be having the same difficulty.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: I'm happy to have those on notice anyway, just in terms of annual budget, staffing levels and how that has grown or contracted since your inception.</p> <p>Mr Grant: Yes, thank you. We'll do that.</p>	10/12/2020

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63	SQ20-001815	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	99	Agency: Australian Research Council	Research integrity matters	<p>Senator KIM CARR: It goes on: "The Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act) provides the basis for the Commonwealth's performance framework (the framework). The framework consists of the PGPA Act, the accompanying Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 and guidance issued by the Department of Finance. An important element of the framework is the clear alignment of the purpose(s) to the planned outcomes of the entity, and that the performance information provided by the entity provides the Parliament and the public with information to assess the entity's progress towards achieving their purpose(s)."</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Once again, it's a clean bill of health. That's quoting from page 44. That's on a question of performance and reporting. There's only one matter I'd seek your advice from. It says here: "The ARC Research Integrity Report for 1 January to 31 March 2019 noted that the ARC was monitoring 11 matters carried over from the previous quarter ..."</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: In regard to research integrity. And: As such, of the 20 research integrity matters (new and ongoing) considered in the period, 13 matters remained active as at 31 March 2019. I'd ask you to take notice of what they were.</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: Yes, Senator.</p>	10/12/2020
64	SQ20-001816	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	103	Agency: Australian Research Council	Correspondence between ARC and the Group of Eight (regarding proposed changes)	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, sure, but what about the correspondence? Is there any correspondence between yourselves at the ARC and the Group of Eight?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: Yes there is. I would need to take advice on that to understand what we could provide you with.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Well, I'll ask you to table all of that correspondence in regard to the changes that you're proposing as of-let's be precise about this-let's say the day after these documents were published by The Australian. That was the 24th, wasn't it? That's when you first wrote back, isn't it?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: I'm happy to take this on notice and I'll take advice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is there any reason why I can't have that correspondence tonight?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: I will need to take advice, Senator.</p>	10/12/2020
65	SQ20-001824	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	106	Agency: Australian Research Council	Allegations made in The Australian (regarding a professor at Monash University)	<p>Prof. Thomas: The ARC has always scanned for sensitivities.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, I understand that. But I'm talking in regard to the actions that were taken the day the material appeared in The Australian but not, I might add, when the material that appeared in the Telegraph. I don't think you have explained why you did not act on the Telegraph material. Perhaps now you could tell me why didn't you act on it then.</p> <p>Ms Emery: I have no idea.</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: I can come back on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, take that on notice. So it wasn't because the minister asked you to?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: No, it is a standard process at the ARC.</p>	10/12/2020
66	SQ20-001828	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	106	Agency: Australian Research Council	Handling of sensitive information	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Is it secure in your office?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: We manage a range of sensitive information, and this will be managed in the same way.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is it available to other agencies within government?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: We have not provided it to other parts of government.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But it is available, isn't it?</p> <p>Ms Emery: If they made a request then the ARC would manage that information under the Privacy Act obligations.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, you are obliged to provide it, aren't you?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: I'm not sure that's clear here.</p> <p>Ms Emery: We would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You're not clear?</p> <p>Ms Emery: We are not clear. Sorry.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would you like to take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Emery: Absolutely.</p>	10/12/2020
67	SQ20-001830	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	107	Agency: Australian Research Council	Information about foreign associations and affiliations	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Are you able to provide a clear statement for applicants, giving an explanation of the purpose of seeking the information about foreign associations and affiliations and an explanation of how this will be used in the decision-making process?</p> <p>Ms Emery: I think we've already done that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Where can I find that?</p> <p>Ms Emery: I believe it's on our website. There was a network message at the time of the-</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Could you provide us with a copy of that?</p> <p>Ms Emery: We certainly can.</p>	10/12/2020
68	SQ20-001834	Spoken	Kim Carr	28/10/2020	108	Agency: Australian Research Council	Allegations of conflict of interest or counter interference	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I've asked you a question in relation to the operations according to the Australian National Audit Office and there has been no difficulty associated with your administration of those grants in terms of conflict of interest, foreign interference or any of those 'misdeemeanors' that people talk of-I'm trying to use the word gently, because the claims made in these reports are actually horrendous but there is no evidence presented or in your own reports in regard to your responsibility to report breaches to the finance department. There is no evidence whatsoever. Other than this tracker funded by the US government, what have you got?</p> <p>Prof. Thomas: I don't do the scans myself. I would need to take that on notice. We use a number of different sites.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So what's required these days is for someone to make an innuendo or a claim regarding an applicant, a recipient of a laureate fellow, and you will run an investigation. But when will you put out a statement to exonerate these people? Have you put out any to date?</p> <p>Ms Emery: If we are satisfied with the advice that has come back from the institution, that is the end of the matter. Our relationship is in relation to-</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It's not the end of the matter for these professors.</p>	10/12/2020
69	SQ20-001840	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	5	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Staff engaged by the department through labour hire	<p>Senator URQUHART: Hello. Could you tell me how many staff are currently engaged by the department through labour hire and then can you break that down as a proportion of the department's total headcount for the financial year 2019-20, 2018-19 and then during the pandemic?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: Total headcount at 31 August 2020 was 3,545, and that compared to 3,571 at 30 June. That's a decrease of 26.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many of those are labour hire?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: In terms of non-ongoing, I'll see if we've got-</p> <p>Mr Markovic: As at 31 August we had 623 contractors in the department, and the secretary has already provided you the figure of the number of permanent staff. Approximately 18 per cent of our workforce are contractors-we use that term-which would include labour hire.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: But how many are specifically labour hire?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I don't have the break-up. We characterise them as contractors. People that we don't engage through the Public Service Act are characterised as contractors.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you provide a proper breakdown of that?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I can certainly have a look and see if we can split it between labour hire and other contractors but, as I said, we record it as contractors.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes, but I'm specifically interested in the labour hire component. Financial year 2018-19? I presume the figure you gave me was 2019-20?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: Yes, it's an as-at figure. You will appreciate the number of contractors in proportion to the number of staff we have fluctuates over time. I've given you the figure as at 31 August. I can give you a 30 June figure. So, 30 June 2020 was 619. Also, you might recall that the department went through some machinery of government changes earlier this year. We were formed on 1 February, and I can give you a figure for that as well. We were 666 on 1 February. I'd need to take on notice figures earlier than that.</p>	10/12/2020
70	SQ20-001841	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	6	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Employment labour hire firms	<p>Senator URQUHART: That's effectively that pandemic-each month. How much in total has the department paid employment labour hire firms to fill these temporary positions? Again, if you could break it down for the financial years 2019-20, 2018-19 and again during the pandemic? You don't have that on you?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: No. You've asked a labour hire question. I have contractor numbers with me. We'll take that question on notice and provide that detail.</p>	10/12/2020
71	SQ20-001843	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	6	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Mark-up charged by labour hire firms	<p>Senator URQUHART: What is the mark-up charged by labour hire firms for staff, again as an average percentage of the value of the contract?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: We don't track the mark-up percentage in the department.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You don't know what that is?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: We go out to tender and use a market process to identify value for money in terms of picking our contractors, but the actual margin I think you are referring to that individual agencies might apply is not something that is normally disclosed to the department, and we don't track it.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You don't have any sight on what the cost would be if you employed those people directly as opposed to through a labour hire firm and what that extra charge is?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I think that's a slightly different question. I can tell you the cost of an APS officer. I can tell you the cost of what we pay in labour hire. That may not necessarily be attributed to margin. That's supply and demand.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Because it's a tender process, there are other things taken into consideration, obviously. This is across government. This is not just this portfolio agency. This is across government in terms of how this tender process actually works. But we can take this on notice for you and see what information can be distilled.</p>	10/12/2020
72	SQ20-001853	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	7	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Temporary personnel contracts	<p>Senator URQUHART: According to tenders.gov.au, the total value of temporary personnel contracts awarded by the department that have commenced since 1 March 2020 totals \$59.8 million. Is that figure accurate?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: Can you just give me the source of that?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Tenders.gov.au.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Do you have a reference number?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: No, I'm sorry, I don't.</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I'm happy to check that figure. It sounds broadly right for the numbers, but if I could take it on notice to verify that figure. We do publish all of our contracts on AusTender, so that is the source of truth. I don't have that particular cut of AusTender with me today.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you can then tell me when you check that figure what proportion of that funding has been paid as premiums to the various labour hire firms?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: As I mentioned, I think that's somewhat problematic. We don't collect a premium in the way that you've described it.</p>	10/12/2020

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73	SQ20-001844	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	7	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Temporary personnel services recruited more than once	<p>Senator URQUHART: How many staff have been recruited more than once for temporary personnel services in a year?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I wouldn't have that information here. I can have a look.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You can provide that? Are they on rolling contracts?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: I wouldn't think so, but we'll double check for you. Let me try to clarify. Are you asking where we have a permanent position and we have put a temporary person in that permanent position?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes. I suppose the issue is, if you've got a temporary personnel service and you recruit them over the period of a year, and then you—</p> <p>Dr Brunges: Re-employing the same people?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Are they on rolling contracts or specifically on a contract and then put off and then put on?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: Again, I can refer to my own area. Some of our contractors would be extended. Not all would be. But some would be extended. They are fixed-term contracts. At the end of the contract we make an assessment about whether that role is still needed, whether there's work, whether we still need that skill, and make a decision about whether or not to extend that.</p>	10/12/2020
74	SQ20-001845	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	7-8	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Departmental staff performing the same or similar work as labour hire staff	<p>Senator URQUHART: Are there any permanent departmental staff that are performing the same or similar work as labour hire staff?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: There would be in a call centre capacity, I would have thought?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Brunges: In our call centres we would have a standing group of call centre staff within the department and then the example of surge where we have a change or something happening we would surge with contract staff?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I was going to make the same point. In relation to surge resources. Again, I'll use an IT example just for completeness. Where we need people who are doing coding skills, we will have some that are APS staff. Where we need to do additional coding for a period of time we'll engage people that have the same skills to do some surge capacity. Once those projects are completed, we would revert back to our permanent staff, who would continue to support and maintain that system.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You've given me a couple of examples there. Are there other examples?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: In the organisation? I think the Secretary has spoken to you about call centre staff. Again, we would have some APS staff answering telephone calls. Where we've got peak and surge needs we would do that. There would be examples within our program areas. Another example might be we receive some money in the child care space for some integrity measures. You might have seen those—the family day care integrity measures—and we have brought in some compliance expertise into the organisation. We would have permanent staff that can do that. We were provided with time-limited funding and we have provided some additional resources to support that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Maybe, Mr Markovic, if you could take that on notice and provide a bit more detail around others where that may be the case?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I'm happy to broadly categorise those if that's helpful.</p>	10/12/2020
75	SQ20-001846	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	11	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Labour hire staff contracted more than once	<p>Senator Urquhart: Of the temporary personnel engaged by the department using labour hire, how many of those staff have been contracted more than once?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I would need to take that question on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
76	SQ20-001852	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	11-12	DESE - Employment	Six temporary call centre contracts	<p>Page 11</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: My questions go to a number of contracts that the Department of Education, Skills and Training has entered into with six temporary employment recruiters as published on the AusTender site. What are the temporary personnel services that DESE has contracted each of these six companies to deliver for a total of 24—</p> <p>Senator Cash: Can you provide some further information so they can actually bring up the contracts?</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: CN3718797, 3718796, 3718795, 3718783, 3718782 and 3718781. Just to be clear, these are the ones that relate to action by the department on 22 September 2020 where the Department of Education, Skills and Employment contracted six companies. The total I believe adds to \$24 million for temporary personnel services. I think the total was new employment services model, digital services contact centre, and it's purported to be for the period 15 September 2020 to 30 June 2021.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: How many staff have been engaged under each of the contracts?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I wouldn't have that detail with me, but we can certainly get that for you. Certainly our employment colleagues will be on later today and will be able to give you precise detail.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: If we can get an idea of how many are on a full-time and part-time basis as well?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: We will see if we can bring that back.</p> <p>Page 12</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Could you provide on notice the job titles, descriptions and salaries of these temporary positions? I'm assuming there must be some management going on. Who manages this project? Who manages these staff?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: That would come under our employment area. There would be public servants, of course. I just might go to your point about the purpose. This really goes to the enhanced services and the Digital Plus that commenced on 1 October 2019. It's a surge. It's more tailored support. Those call centres are very important. In terms of the COVID context, even more so. But as to more detail than that—if you don't mind, when our employment experts are here we can take those questions.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: We have enough time to get to that. If not, I've indicated—</p> <p>Senator Cash: We will take it on notice and provide you additional information.</p>	10/12/2020
77	SQ20-001847	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	14	DESE - Employment	Digital Services Contact Centre - ASL provided to the department	<p>Mr Markovic: In the employment space there were 42 ASL provided to the department.</p> <p>ASL did come to the department to support this measure.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Perhaps you could provide on notice a breakdown of the skillsets, the descriptions and rates of pay, et cetera?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes.</p>	10/12/2020
78	SQ20-001848	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	14	DESE - Skills and Training	Tenders awarded to some employer groups	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Could I ask you to have a look at tenders awarded to some employer groups on 30 May 2016? In particular, contract notice 3345385-AS? This might twig your memory. It's a contract to the New South Wales Business Chamber for the amount of \$14.4 million. It was awarded via your department and it ran from 1 July 2015 to 31 January 2020.</p> <p>Dr Brunges: I'm happy to take that on notice and have a look at it. So 30 May 2016. We've got the number?</p>	10/12/2020
79	SQ20-001849	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	14-15	DESE - Employment	Randstad Pty Ltd	<p>Senator URQUHART: The Department of Education, Skills and Employment contracted Randstad Pty Ltd, CB372674, \$4.975 million, for recruitment services listed under the category of temporary personnel services for the period of 1 October 2020 to 30 June 2022. What are the temporary personnel services that have been contracted to be provided in this particular contract?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I haven't got that information with me, but I'll see if we can pull up the tender notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How much has Randstad been paid in total by the department to recruit temporary personnel for the department in this financial year, 2019-20, the financial year 2018-19, and during the pandemic?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I would need to take that on notice, but certainly happy to provide that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Under that particular contract that I spoke about, can you tell me what is the total number of temporary staff that will be employed?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I will take that on notice also.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many will be full time and how many part time?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: Yes.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you tell me what was the process for the department's decision to employ these staff temporarily?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Brunges: It's a fixed timeframe and I think it might be related to the Employment conversation we've just had, but I will double-check for you and see if our Employment colleagues tonight can raise that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What are the job titles, job descriptions and salaries of those temporary positions? Who manages the temporary staff? Where are those temporary staff physically located? Are there equivalent positions within the department doing the same work, so the same question that I asked before? Were there previous equivalent positions within the department doing that work? Are these replacing people that were there? Are they contracted positions that are earning the same salaries as their departmental equivalent counterparts? Is the contract seeking to get around the government's staffing cap policy?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: As I said before, in the last nine months the department, through the machinery of government, changed from about 1,200 people to about 3,581, from memory. We're working underneath that staffing cap. I am more than happy to take those contract numbers and your questions on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
80	SQ20-001850	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	15	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprenticeship data management system	<p>Mr Markovic: There was an announcement in the budget to commence a project to develop the apprenticeship data management system. That is a project that has started, and the intent of that project is to replace, as the secretary said, the TYIMS, the Training and Youth Internet Management System.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: How many staff have been allocated to this next attempt to try to get it right?</p> <p>Mr Markovic: We're in the process of doing the planning for that project. I don't think I've got that exact number with me, but I can certainly take that on notice and give it to you.</p>	10/12/2020
81	SQ20-001851	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	16	DESE - Cross Portfolio	TYIMS/AAAS	<p>Senator O'NEILL: In terms of timeliness and response here. I note the many hours shared in this chamber with former Senator Cameron. It's more than two years since Senator Cameron asked about the half a million dollars that was spent on reviews of the system, the failed system that NEC walked away from with the tune of \$10.5 million. Why has it taken two years to get to the point where it's only being finalised now, and the commencement of a project is in its very novel stages?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: The TYIMS that we currently operate on has operated throughout that period. What we are now in a planning phase to do is to replace that TYIMS for the payment of apprenticeships. It's not as though—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I want to be confident that it's going to work.</p> <p>Dr Brunges: I can assure you we have put a whole range of governance, a whole range of issues into the project. Yes, we did have a failed project, and I was very public about that.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: What was the total cost of that failure in terms of taxpayer dollars?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: I would have to take that on notice. I don't have that top of mind.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: In addition to the \$10.5 million that went to NEC there were further costs, were there not?</p> <p>Dr Brunges: I think it was on our website, but I'm happy to take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020

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82	SQ20-001862	Spoken	Perin Davey	29/10/2020	18-19	Agency: National Skills Commissioner	Data Impacts of COVID-19 (State by State)	<p>Senator DAVEY: In your opening statement, you covered off the impact of COVID, which is very helpful, but have you got data, a state-by-state breakdown, for the impacts of COVID and what the current participation and unemployment rates are per state and how many jobs have been lost?</p> <p>Mr Boyton: Yes, I do. I think one way of characterising the impact of COVID-19 on the labour market on a state-by-state basis is also to look at the number of hours worked. The unemployment rate, of course, is affected by not just people losing their jobs but also people dropping out of the labour force. In testimony earlier this week I think the Treasury referred to the effective unemployment rate comprising those people who have dropped out of the labour force or who might be working zero hours. Looking at trends in hours worked essentially enables you to capture all of that. What we're seeing across the country at the moment is, in most of the mainland states, hours worked has declined by roughly two per cent from the start of the pandemic to now. The situation is, of course, markedly different in Victoria due to the shutdown there, where hours worked is down a little over 13 per cent. Obviously as we move through the next few months we'll see the impact of those easings of restrictions on hours worked. Conditions in the labour market vary considerably across the states. Our monitoring of job advertisements is showing that in some states, in particular in Western Australia, levels of job advertising are now back at the levels they were prior to the onset of the pandemic. There's a varied number of conditions around the states. I can talk in detail to any particular state you'd like.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: If you could table or provide us with the breakdown—</p> <p>Mr Boyton: Of course.</p>	10/12/2020
83	SQ20-001874	Spoken	Perin Davey	29/10/2020	19-20	Agency: National Skills Commissioner	JEDI - Indicating jobs in regional areas	<p>Senator DAVEY: I'm going to go further on this, because I think this is really exciting. If you're a jobseeker or someone who has just lost their job from COVID and you're based in the city, you might only be looking in the Sydney Morning Herald, in the classifieds or you go on Seek. Unless you actively put in that you're looking beyond that, it will only bring up jobs in that particular market. Obviously I'm very keen to get those people employed in the regions, and there are jobs going in the regions. Does your data also reflect, when you're looking at job ads across the country, that we have a lot of jobs going in the regions that are going begging? Some people in the city are maybe not aware of it. If they go on Jobs Hub and they list their skills and their previous jobs, this might flag something for someone in Sydney that there might be a relevant job, as I said, in Wagga, Dubbo or some other regional area that would suit their skillset perfectly. They could also have the benefit of a reduced cost of living.</p> <p>Mr Boyton: That isn't a problem in some of those jurisdictions, is it?</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: It depends. We look at how we can do things and not why we can't.</p> <p>CHAIR: Did you have a question?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I think Mr Boyton was about to answer an earlier question.</p> <p>Mr Boyton: I think I said earlier that we are seeing regional Australia having had less of a negative impact as a result of COVID-19. In some parts of regional Australia job vacancies are at levels pre-pandemic. I'll take on notice how we can think about some of the tools that we've developed to assist jobseekers along the way that you've just outlined.</p>	10/12/2020
84	SQ20-001878	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	22	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Reallocated funding from DESE for the National Skills Commission	<p>Senator O'NEILL: I note that in the original \$48.3 million announcement—are you familiar with that one, Mr Turvey?</p> <p>Mr Turvey: From the 2019-20 budget, yes.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I note that only about one-third of that was actually new funding. The rest was reallocated departmental funding. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Turvey: I don't have the precise breakdown of that in front of me but it's—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Dr Bruniges might be able to help us with this one.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: Yes. There were some functions that were in the department that we moved across to the Skills Commission. The actual quantity of that, I would need to take on notice.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Do you know the quantum that went over? No.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I'm happy to take it on notice. We will. We took the principle that basically staff follow function. Commissioner Boyton outlined descriptions this morning around the functions. Some of those staff—for example, in fact, Mr Turvey moved across—were previously in the old employment department.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Would you be able to provide now or notice from where in the department that funding was taken in order to fund—I think it was a \$30 million—</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I'm happy to take that on notice. We moved staff and function, which will account for some of that. I'll provide on notice what functions, and the associated staff and costs, went across to the commission.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: To be clear, \$30 million worth of money from the department went over to the National Skills Commission. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: No, I wouldn't quite characterise it as that. I'm happy to take on notice the actual amount. I'm not sure whether that was the total of \$30 million. But certainly staff and functions from the old employment department moved into the commission, and rightfully so.</p>	10/12/2020
85	SQ20-001857	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	23	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Letter from Minister Cash to the Remuneration Tribunal - Mr Adam Boyton	<p>Senator O'NEILL: I note an explanatory statement to a Remuneration Tribunal—No. 6. That explains that Minister Cash requested person-specific remuneration for Mr Boyton. I don't know that that's a normal practice. Could you explain exactly what that means?</p> <p>Ms Williams: The usual process of providing advice to the Remuneration Tribunal involves the relevant minister providing some advice to the tribunal to help guide its decision-making around the remuneration for the appropriate—so you're correct in that.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: This involves a letter?</p> <p>Ms Williams: Generally.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: May we have a copy of the letter?</p> <p>Ms Williams: I'll have to take that on notice. I don't have a copy of that with me but I'll get that for you.</p>	10/12/2020
86	SQ20-001859	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	24	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Remuneration Tribunal process	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Could you provide any other letters that would give us a sense of the frequency with which this recommendation to the Remuneration Tribunal comes from Minister Cash?</p> <p>Ms Williams: I wouldn't know across the breadth of appointments within the portfolio. There's only a handful.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: Senator, things like the ARC, ACARA, TEQSA, AITSL—those senior positions, when they're first established through a process, require a final settling of remuneration through the Remuneration Tribunal. In most cases where I've been associated with those appointments over the last 4½ years that was the standard practice, where the relevant minister would write to the Remuneration Tribunal outlining the characteristics of the position. The decision is made by the Remuneration Tribunal and then sent back and advised to the department.</p> <p>CHAIR: Is this a new process, or is it—</p> <p>Senator Cash: No, it's not a new process. Regardless of who's in office, this is the processes that's followed.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: What I'm interested to discern in this situation is—could you provide the letters on notice, Ms Williams—how frequently Minister Cash writes letters to the Remuneration Tribunal to—</p> <p>Senator Cash: We'll look into it right now, Senator O'Neill. It is very infrequently.</p>	10/12/2020
87	SQ20-001885	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	30-31	Agency: National Skills Commissioner	Career Quiz	<p>Senator URQUHART: How was the career quiz designed? Can you tell me who designed it, how much they were paid and how many people have engaged with the quiz?</p> <p>Mr Turvey: I don't have that information available at the moment but I can take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
88	SQ20-001891	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	31	Agency: National Skills Commissioner	Career Quiz	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Can I just ask a couple of quick questions. I wondered if the Career Quiz—I grew up reading magazines every now and then. It's always the quiz that keeps people engaged. It doesn't actually give them a job. The question is: the number of people who have engaged with the career quiz doesn't necessarily mean that that translates into jobs. Have you got any connectivity between what happens when people go on and do the quiz and the translation of that into actual employment? It's not enough to keep people busy and entertained.</p> <p>Mr Turvey: I'd have to take that on notice. It would depend on the environment in which the Jedi tool is being used. For somebody using that tool at home, there could be very different linkage to the sorts of tools that have been built using the Jedi engine to help inform the employment services network. But I don't have detail on that, so I'll have to take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
89	SQ20-001854	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	38	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprenticeships and trainees wage subsidy announcements	<p>Senator O'NEILL: The \$1.3 billion to support 117 apprenticeships and trainees.</p> <p>Senator Cash: 117,000, not 117.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes, sorry—117,000 apprenticeships and trainees. Then the second announcement on 16 July doubles the length of the first commitment and purportedly makes it available to more than 60,000 more apprentices.</p> <p>Ms Williams: I'll take that question. I will also ask Mr Weideman to also expand on my answer. But I think the differences that you're talking about there can be attributed to the design of the program and the way in which, certainly, when you set up something new there's a range of establishment and upfront costs that you need to put in place, whether that's bringing in the staff, getting the IT systems in place, et cetera. When you extend a program, you no longer need to have those establishment costs considered within the extension. You're simply utilising the same infrastructure et cetera to run the program. But Mr Weideman is available to talk to more detail if you wish.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you. So the \$1.3 billion—what was it allocated to?</p> <p>Mr Weideman: Thank you, Senator. Part of it goes to—as Ms Williams has said, there were a number of upfront costs associated with the establishment of the measure. There was also an existing cohort to support small businesses. With the original measure, there were a number of establishment costs associated with the design, development and rollout and implementation.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: And what's the number on that?</p> <p>Mr Weideman: I'd probably have to take the breakdown on the establishment costs on notice.</p>	10/12/2020

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90	SQ20-001855	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	39-40	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprentice and trainee wage subsidy payments	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Okay. I was going to come to some questions with a bit more breakdown on that, so can I just continue. How many actual payments were made under the first phase of the scheme?</p> <p>Mr Weiderman: What I can give you is the amount of money that was paid out in that financial year-in the last financial year-if that would be helpful.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: It might not be, because there was a bit of a crossover. What I'm trying to do is get a sense of what happened with the first phase and then get a comparison with the second phase.</p> <p>Mr Weiderman: Part of what is probably worth noting with this measure is that, because there is a continuation, it is an expansion and extension of the existing measure through which small businesses would continue to be eligible for funding. So some of those-as to that disambiguation of funding paid to individual employers, unfortunately, I don't think I have that to hand at the moment.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So perhaps if you can given that I've explained the way in which I'm trying to seek to understand the numbers, can you take that on notice. How many employers received the subsidy under the first phase of the scheme?</p>	10/12/2020
91	SQ20-001856	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	40-41	DESE - Skills and Training	Eligibility for the government's apprentice and trainee wage subsidy	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes, that's my question. If somebody decided to hire an apprentice between 1 July this year and 5 October, that business, despite the fact they're creating a job in the middle of a pandemic and the first recession in 30 years, does not receive any support. Why did the government decide to exclude those businesses, apprenticeships and apprentices from receiving support in the midst of a recession?</p> <p>Senator Cash: That was a decision of the government on BAC, and I think you articulated it yourself when you actually introduced the question. Those businesses had determined that they had the capacity to take on an apprentice during that period of time.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So they did it just unlucky timing, guys; you missed out on the support from the government?</p> <p>Senator Cash: They determined that they had the ability to take on the apprentice. As you said, good on them for creating the job.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So what would the cost have been to include these businesses and apprenticeships in the scheme? How many of them missed out?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I may have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Williams: I think we would have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>	10/12/2020
92	SQ20-001860	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	46-47	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprentice scheme	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes. Exactly. I expect there won't be a problem, but I don't want to say 100 per cent that that's the case when it may not be. We've seen a problem for the apprentice or trainee. We've seen problems identified by businesses who are trying to be part of this. We know that there's a carve-out of businesses between 1 July and 5 October this year. How many apprenticeships and trainees commenced between July and October? Given all those forms and systems, I'm sure somebody has to know.</p> <p>Ms White: Mr Thiveos, I think, will have those figures.</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: Senator, just over 32,000 apprentices and trainees commenced during that period from July to the end of September.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So 1 July to 30 September?</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: Just over 32,000.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So 32,000-</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: Australian apprentices commenced.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Australian apprentices or trainees?</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Who are in this situation that we've been discussing?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Bear in mind, though, Senator O'Neill, that they had the capacity to take on the apprentice at the time. They are also able to avail themselves and I'm quite happy of other wage subsidies.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I will go to that. What would the cost have been to include these businesses in the apprentice scheme?</p> <p>Ms White: I don't think we have that cost.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: If you want to take that on notice, that would be great</p>	10/12/2020
93	SQ20-001863	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	47	DESE - Skills and Training	Parliamentary question 1952	<p>Senator Cash: I've got 1952. I've got PQ1952. Did you just say-</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Which is from Senator Kimberly Kitching ask the minister for schools and employment?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Sorry, yes. I thought you said 1953.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I did. That is an error. Thank you.</p> <p>Senator Cash: We are listening.</p> <p>CHAIR: We are working together.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: There has been a lot of licence with big numbers. We want to get them right, okay.</p> <p>Senator Cash: We're listening.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: They are from the COVID committee hearing. Are these the most up-to-date figures that you have available that have been provided here?</p> <p>Ms Williams: There are some updates that we would be able to provide on those numbers.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you. Would be great. Do you want to take me through them in line with the parliamentary question?</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: We'll have to get that data. The data I have dated is until 1 October. The data that you have there is dated as at 8 October.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So this is the most up to date?</p> <p>Mr Thiveos: Yes. I should be able to obtain it. I can get you further data. I will see if my colleagues can get it for you.</p> <p>Dr Brunings: We can probably get it on notice. We would have to run the data file as of today.</p>	10/12/2020
94	SQ20-001864	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	50	DESE - Skills and Training	Businesses eligible to claim wage subsidies	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you, Chair. I will go to the question I asked. Dana I ask it again. We were talking about the number of businesses that would already be eligible at 1 July and 1 March that should be known to you to be able to claim wage subsidies. That is really what I want to know. How many of them are there? I think you were about to explain why it may not be the case that they are already claiming. I think that's where we were before I was interrupted by the chair.</p> <p>Ms Williams: Indeed. We may need to take on notice the exact number. I will see if I have someone with that number here with us. The reason they wouldn't be claiming is that there will be a proportion claiming JobKeeper instead, which would make them ineligible for the subsidy under this scheme. The business may have come to a view that they did not wish to claim government subsidies. There is a cohort of businesses that simply don't. They may be of the view that they don't need it at this stage. They may apply for it at some other point in time.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Do you have any sense of the cohort of businesses that you just described that wouldn't claim the subsidy?</p> <p>Ms Williams: The second group, Senator?</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Williams: We would have to look at that. I think the challenge, of course, is that we don't have data available with us at the moment as to the number of.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: If you could take that on notice, I would be interested to get the sense of people who go, 'It's too hard. I'm not going to do it', because often it is. Or perhaps they don't know about it. But for a range of reasons, people don't engage.</p> <p>Ms Williams: Yes.</p>	10/12/2020
95	SQ20-001865	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	51-53	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprentices on JobKeeper	<p>Senator O'NEILL: We've been through the differentiation of the schemes and the attractiveness of putting somebody on JobKeeper. How many apprentices are there on JobKeeper?</p> <p>Ms Williams: I don't have access to that data at this point. That data is held by the ATO. We could assume that there would be a large proportion.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Would you be able to get that information?</p> <p>Dr Brunings: Let's take that on notice and talk to our colleagues in the ATO and see what we can do.</p> <p>....</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I agree, Senator. I think that seems very reasonable. The only reason I'm prosecuting this line is that it has become apparent in the questions and answers this afternoon that JobKeeper and the supporting apprenticeships and trainee wage subsidy are intertwined in the way that the government is perceiving how they're responding to it. That's why I've asked those questions. But I'm happy to have what you can provide, if you are doing any modelling, about what happens to apprentices when JobKeeper shuts down by \$100, \$200, \$300 or whatever is proposed.</p> <p>Dr Brunings: We wouldn't do that modelling. I've taken on notice that we'll work with our colleagues in the ATO who have the data on JobKeeper.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: And you can find that out?</p> <p>Dr Brunings: We'll see what they can provide.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you.</p>	10/12/2020
96	SQ20-001868	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	57	DESE - Skills and Training	SAT measure	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you very much, Chair. I think that discussion about SAT and JobKeeper is important. I remain concerned about it. I look forward to the answers on notice. Of the employers receiving support, how many are small businesses and how many are medium businesses?</p> <p>Ms Williams: We're talking about the SAT measure at this stage?</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes. We will do these on notice because I notice how time is slipping away. I have to put them on the record, though. What proportion were group training organisations-</p> <p>Ms Williams: Certainly.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: during the first phase of the scheme? Were any subsidies provided to employees with more than 19 full-time employees? Could you provide a breakdown of recipients by apprenticeship and trainee type? Of employer recipients, what proportion are also recipients of the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program? Now they are on the record, they are on notice.</p> <p>Ms Williams: We'll take them all on notice. Thank you, Senator.</p>	10/12/2020

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97	SQ20-002172	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	61-62	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprentice and trainee support	<p>Mr Thivies: In terms of what sort of training may or may not be taking place, we send out surveys to our apprentices. In terms of the supporting apprentices and trainees wage subsidy, where large amounts of money have been paid out, we've already surveyed over 4,000 Australian apprentices about whether there were any issues with compliance in terms of the training they've undertaken or any other problems. We've found that a very small percentage had some administrative issues but nothing to do with fraud or really non-compliance.</p> <p>We also have an in-training support service provided by our ASN providers. That's further support provided to any of our Australian apprentices, be they trainees or trade apprentices. If there are any issues, Ms White would have told you that they have the name of—I'll use the lay term—a contract nudge, someone they can refer to if they see that there are any issues or problems. It is someone they can actually talk to. Our ASN providers are dispersed across the entire country. We have seven of those providers who work very closely with our Australian apprentices. They provide these additional services to our Australian apprentices.</p> <p>What we've seen since April is that we've had over 15,000 occasions where our apprentices have requested some sort of support. It may be about anything. The relationship with the employer may not be so good. They may have some personal issues. One thing that has come to the fore, I understand, from some case studies we've looked at is that sometimes the apprentice is the only person working in a household that's been affected by the downturn in the economy from COVID. It's that continued service and monitoring from the ASNs that will also provide us with the information that we require to find out very quickly if things are happening that may be untoward.</p> <p>Another thing is obviously the joint relationship between the states and territories and the Commonwealth. We need to remember that the state training authorities have a number of field officers who will also be looking at things very closely. They do that currently and will continue to do so. We've also set up a working group with them on a regular basis to look at not only the supporting apprentices and trainees wage subsidy but also the new commencement subsidy. They are obviously very interested in what is happening. There is a lot of information sharing going on. We are about to set up a working group with our ASN providers as well just to make sure that we have current information about what is going on outside and on the ground, if that makes sense. So we can collect any information quickly and make sure that we can investigate any things very quickly that we need to.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I'm happy to receive on notice any further details you can provide about how that's going and where the problems are and what you are seeing. I know that that some of the traineeships with very big</p>	10/12/2020
98	SQ20-001870	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	66-67	DESE - Skills and Training	Industry training hubs	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Ms White, before we go to what happened with the Burnie hub, I'm just gobsmacked that we've got an announcement of \$50.9 million over a year ago with this big hullabaloo in the lead-up to an election. Hope was raised for perhaps millions of Australians who care about this stuff. You're telling me that, of \$50.9 million, \$51,000 is all that has been spent?</p> <p>Ms White: I can explain the reason.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I know that you're going to have a go at that. Let's just rest for a second. It is \$50 million and \$51,000. There's a lot of people who have \$51,000 who would rather have \$50 million. That's a big gap.</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator O'Neill, Ms White is answering the question.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you, Ms White.</p> <p>Ms White: The \$50 million goes over a number of financial years.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: How many?</p> <p>Senator Cash: The forward estimates for the time. It was across the forward estimates.</p> <p>Ms White: The hubs go for several years in each location.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: With one person in the hub?</p> <p>Ms White: One person in each hub. It's a quite specific role to work with local employers. In Burnie, our facilitator started. You may recall that Burnie was one of the jurisdictions that had a significant COVID impact with the hospital workers and so on.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Yes. That cluster there, yes.</p> <p>Ms White: So the career facilitator continued to work by Zoom and so on in a committee of local stakeholders. As I said, it's located in the council chambers. What couldn't happen in that period was us funding training projects. They couldn't be delivered because Burnie was shut down. I am pleased to say that the local employers in that town have come through the facilitator—this is sort of how the facilitator works—and put forward a project to the department. We now have a contract in place for training 130 year 12 students.</p> <p>Senator Cash: It's fantastic.</p> <p>Ms White: In a range of courses, which local employers have actually put together. So they have pulled competencies out of training packages and so on. They are starting at the end of the year 12 school exams. It's around the second week in November. It will go into December. Those students will be assisted into jobs where</p>	10/12/2020
99	SQ20-001872	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	67	DESE - Skills and Training	Commonwealth scholarships for young people	<p>Senator O'NEILL: And who is providing that in Burnie?</p> <p>Ms White: TasTAFE. We have procured the services of the TAFE in Tasmania. It's being delivered across a range of local towns. I'm not from Tasmania. It is Burnie itself, Smithtown, Devonport, Zeehan and Queenstown. These are all the local schools in that area of north-west Tasmania. At the moment, the facilitator is working with the schools to get the students into that training. They'll be provided with all the PPE equipment they need—boots and hard hats. There's a range of different training from the mining sector to hospitality to—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Please give the detail. Once they've embedded themselves in this training, will those who get access to it be affected in their access to further training opportunities? Will they incur any debt?</p> <p>Ms White: No, they will not.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Will they be offered loans to get the equipment that they need to do the job?</p> <p>Ms White: I'm not sure about loans to get the equipment to do the jobs. But there is another initiative called the Commonwealth scholarships for young people that's also operating in those 10 locations.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I will ask you to provide me on notice with details of that because we're going to run out of time.</p>	10/12/2020
100	SQ20-001873	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	70	DESE - Skills and Training	JobTrainer fund	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Could you provide on notice the dates that everybody signed up and when you think you'll get—</p> <p>Ms Williams: Yes. I can probably do it here.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Well, we've got a few minutes—</p> <p>Ms Williams: We can provide it on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
101	SQ20-001875	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	71	DESE - Skills and Training	JobTrainer program training places	<p>Senator O'NEILL: I want to ask about the training places. If I can go through my questions and you can just respond to those, that will help me.</p> <p>Ms Williams: Yes. Go through the training questions, yes.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: rather than have me clean up at the end. Given the variations that you've just articulated in your response to my first question and the range of variables you've just identified, how has that figure of 340,700 been arrived at?</p> <p>Ms Williams: It is an indicative number or an initial estimate, which we are going through now with each state and territory to confirm.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So it's not a reliable number as \$15 in your bank account is \$15? Maybe you could have \$100. Maybe you have \$15. You don't know?</p> <p>Ms Williams: It's an estimate based on what—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: It is an estimate?</p> <p>Ms Williams: We hope would be the mix of short and long courses and the cost per place. We're still going through with each state and territory that process of working through how much in each state. Some states are settled. We're happy to tell you the numbers in those states. Victoria and, I think, the Northern Territory are still going through the process, obviously, of working that out.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So on notice that would be very helpful—</p> <p>Ms Williams: We don't have the full number yet.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: by jurisdiction.</p> <p>Senator Cash: We can do that work.</p>	10/12/2020
102	SQ20-001877	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	72	DESE - Skills and Training	JobTrainer funding	<p>Senator O'NEILL: I will go to how much has been invested in this. The total amount of the fund is \$500 million?</p> <p>Senator Cash: We proportion out, obviously, to the states and territories. They get a certain proportion of that fund.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: We'll get to that. It is budgeted for the 2020-21 year. Does this mean that the free and low-cost training places will not support courses that run over one year?</p> <p>Ms McDonald: That is not true. The situation is that we're putting half a billion dollars in and so are the states. So it's a billion dollars in total. The training places that are purchased under this are for the full qualification. So even though the \$4</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So if you do a two-year course, the first year is free and then the second year you pay?</p> <p>Ms McDonald: No.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: The whole course is covered and allocated across even though the budgeting is for one year.</p> <p>Ms McDonald: The Commonwealth is paying its money to the states and territories. It is in a staged way as the places are committed to. There will be in a budgetary sense an accrual for the state and territory that they will need to manage in finishing the commitment for the payments on completion by the person. If someone enrolls in a full qualification, that place is fully funded by the state and territory with the combined money. That is the commitment.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: And on what basis is the funding divided across the jurisdictions?</p> <p>Ms McDonald: The funding is divided on the basis of population share.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Could you give me a quick breakdown of who got what?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Maybe on notice, looking at the clock.</p>	10/12/2020
103	SQ20-001879	Spoken	Deborah O'Neill	29/10/2020	73	DESE - Skills and Training	Accredited qualifications and short courses	<p>Senator O'NEILL: The department's website says that funding is available for accredited qualifications and short courses in areas of identified and genuine skills needs based on a list agreed by the National Skills Commission and the state and territory governments. Can you provide on notice any information further to what we received from the National Skills Commission this morning about the way in which skills are being identified and the department's role in that? It sounded like you handed that over, but I'm sure it's not completely handed over. I want to understand your role in discerning that and perhaps even where the state or the territory, as the case may be, intersects with this. Will there be a single list of the skills or separate lists for each state and territory?</p> <p>Ms Williams: There are separate lists for each state and territory.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Could you provide that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Williams: That reflects that every state is different. I will certainly be happy to provide that on notice where it is in place. Yes, of course.</p>	10/12/2020

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104	SQ20-001884	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	75	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Interim report on provider activity	<p>Senator URQUHART: that's fine. You have mentioned COVID a few times. In your opening statement, you talked about supporting RTOs. There is an interim report on provider activity dated between 23 March and 31 May in response to COVID. Can you provide an update of that data?</p> <p>Ms Rice: Certainly. Is the table that you are referring to the table provided on ASQA's website?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Rice: I'm finding additional information. I have further information in relation to many of those statistics.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: An update on the data. The data on there shows that 13 providers notified ASQA of an intention to withdraw. There is 44. That is the data I'm talking about.</p> <p>Ms Rice: I think this is the same data you are referring to. It is through to 30 June 2020.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Rice: That is that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Is that the latest, Ms Rice, up to 30 June?</p> <p>Ms Rice: It's the most recent date in relation to this information. I'm happy to take on notice, though, to provide that to a more relevant date.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes. Give me 30 June now, and then any further updates you've got on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
105	SQ20-001886	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	77	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	The VET regulation act	<p>Senator URQUHART: Maybe, Ms Rice, I will ask you to step me through some of the implementation of the following key changes: the registration processes for RTOs; the processes for the accreditation of VET accredited courses; the procedures for reviewing regulatory decisions; the RTO compliance requirements; and the sharing and publishing of information. Can you give me an update on the implementation of those changes?</p> <p>Ms Rice: The majority of those changes came into effect from 1 July this year, so they are in effect. As part of that process, we worked together with the department to provide the sector with guidance in relation to the implementation of those changes and what that would mean for the sector. So in relation to those that you describe-</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You said most of those came in on 1 July. Did they all come in on 1 July?</p> <p>Ms Rice: I want to confirm that. I think those that are still being implemented actually relate to the regulations.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay.</p> <p>Ms Rice: Can I come back to you on that?</p>	10/12/2020
106	SQ20-001888	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	77	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	MPC rapid review	<p>Senator URQUHART: Yes, sure. Absolutely. The MPC rapid review made 24 recommendations. Can you tell me the timeline for all of those to be implemented?</p> <p>Ms Rice: I think realistically the rapid review indicated that the variety of those 24 recommendations is for implementation ultimately over the longer term. Realistically, we see those being implemented over a two- to three-year timeframe. Not all of those recommendations are specifically related to ASQA. It does involve other stakeholders as well, which is part of the reason for that timeframe. Equally, though, some of the aspects of those recommendations involve a transitional process for the sector. For example, there is a recommendation about ensuring the concept of self-assurance. We need to develop in the first instance with the sector a shared understanding of what self-assurance is, what it means for the sector and what it means for the regulator. So that process is one that we've begun. That consultation process has begun. We're looking at some changes in relation to that process in relation to our annual declaration on compliance, which is due usually in April each year. So that's why a number of those recommendations will take place over a period of time.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I'm happy for you to take this on notice. In relation to the recommendations for which ASQA is directly responsible, can you provide a time line for the progress of them to be implemented? That is certainly for the ones you are responsible for. If you're able to provide the others, that's great. Could you do that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Rice: Absolutely.</p>	10/12/2020
107	SQ20-001889	Spoken	Anne Urquhart	29/10/2020	80	DESE - Skills and Training	ASQA reforms funding	<p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. Is anyone from the department able to talk me through the other \$10.1 million? Where is that being spent?</p> <p>Ms Houston: I can talk you through a couple of the components. We can maybe take on notice some more of the detail.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Great, thanks.</p> <p>Ms Houston: Some of the money upfront on that was actually dedicated to undertaking the rapid review of ASQA. The total amount of funding that was expended on that was \$224,480. That was GST inclusive. There has been a further contracted amount for \$493,518. That is for follow-up work to assist ASQA with the implementation of some of those recommendations from the review. I will take on notice the other moneys within that.</p>	10/12/2020
108	SQ20-001858	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	89	DESE - Employment	Star ratings	<p>Ms Shannon: The primary focus of the payment model is obviously to drive provider performance around preparing job seekers for work.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: So there aren't outcome payments for training but there were star ratings. Thank you. Are there still star ratings for training? You said it's around the level of engagement.</p> <p>Ms Shannon: I would need to check.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Maybe take on notice exactly what changes were made to the star ratings.</p> <p>Ms Shannon: As I've advised, there have only been two changes to the star ratings. I don't believe the star ratings have education outcomes or placement as a driver of the calculation. I will just check with my experts.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: But if training is caught up in participation in some other way, it might just be a different name for the same thing. That's what I really need to double-check.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: We can probably have a look to see if that interaction that you're talking about actually happens.</p> <p>Ms Shannon: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: We're happy to take that on notice.</p>	10/12/2020
109	SQ20-001861	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	92-93	DESE - Employment	Job advertisements specifying need to be receiving a wage subsidy	<p>Senator PRATT: I'm advised that that job advertisement was on Grey Garter and Indeed.</p> <p>Senator Cash: We will refer that straight to the Attorney-General's office.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: There's clearly a local context for this job because it's in Springvale, Victoria.</p> <p>Senator Cash: That one is, yes. The other one is in Tasmania.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: That's right. So in that context, is it common for-I think this is what is changing here- employers to advertise for an employee specifically on the basis that they are eligible for a specific type of wage subsidy?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I haven't seen that, but I can take it on notice and see if we have any instances of that.</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: We could probably have a look at Seek or something and see what we can find. It hasn't been brought to my attention. These are the first two I've actually seen.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator PRATT: So you can confirm that you don't know yet whether these ads are legal?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: As the minister has said, we'll refer that to the Attorney-General's Department.</p>	10/12/2020
110	SQ20-001866	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	97	DESE - Employment	PaTH program	<p>Senator PRATT: Do you expect, therefore, that there's going to be less demand for it than the number of people you were pushing into the program? Was it not fully subscribed previously?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: We certainly weren't hitting the cap in that program.</p> <p>Senator Cash: It's still a demand driven program. It's always a demand driven cap.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Okay. So you're essentially banking the savings that were there anyway. To what extent have these savings been redirected to employment assistance? In what way?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Generally, in employment skills, small and family business portfolio or specifically in relation to-</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: There are a number of measures. We can take all of them on notice. If you want me to hit the larger ones in the system, it's probably the easiest way to do it. With the new employment services digital platform, I've got Ms Ryan here at the table. She's responsible for that. That is the new platform and the digital servicing system that will come into effect in mid-2022. We need to start building that now. The government has allocated \$295.9 million for that. We also have the current online employment services system that we were talking about previously, where we're dealing with a large volume of people currently in that caseload. It's about 400,000 people. The government has made an investment of \$183 million into those arrangements. We've built a digital services contact centre to be able to manage any inquiries and to make outbound calls to people in that digital program.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: And local jobs is probably one of the larger ones.</p> <p>Senator Cash: We can provide others on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: That would be terrific.</p>	10/12/2020
111	SQ20-001869	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	99	DESE - Employment	Jobactive participant projections until 2023 by program	<p>Senator PRATT: How many job seeker participants are projected to be in Jobactive, NEST, OES, Work for the Dole, PaTH, EST, ITW and ParentsNext every year until 2023?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I would have to take that on notice. We rely on the unemployment benefit recipient numbers that are projected by Treasury.</p>	10/12/2020
112	SQ20-001871	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	102	DESE - Employment	Online employment service	<p>Senator PRATT: ... Are job seekers in the online employment service eligible to participate in complementary programs such as NEIS and Career Transition Assistance? How many job seekers have been referred to those complementary programs?</p> <p>Ms Ryan: The answer to that is yes. I'm going to have to take on notice how many referrals.</p>	10/12/2020

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113	SQ20-001876	Spoken	Rachel Siewert	29/10/2020	105	DESE - Employment	Mutual obligation	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Of the nearly 74,500 people, how many were new participants?</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I can't say how many are new. As a proxy for that, I could say that nearly 58 per cent of those payment suspensions were for people in stream A. So a lot of the new people coming through are stream A.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many were stream B?</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I don't have that with me.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'm after B and C.</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I don't have suspensions there. I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Take that on notice for the breakdown there. I want to know against the cohort types.</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I can give you those.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be great.</p> <p>Ms Pitt: This is payment suspensions. For Indigenous, it is 12,137. For single parents, it is 6,334. For people with a disability, it is 13,169. For the homeless, it is 9,100. For culturally and linguistically diverse, it is 12,135. For ex-offenders, it is 12,401. I note that some people will be in a number of those categories.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. How long was the average suspension?</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I don't have that.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: We would have to check. The average is normally around that two- to three-day kind of mark.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. I understand that.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I don't know whether that's moved in the current arrangements. We'll find out for you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It would be useful if you could. I'm also thinking that maybe some of the newer people may not be so used to the re-engagement process. If you could take that on notice, that would be good. Thank you</p>	10/12/2020
114	SQ20-001880	Spoken	Rachel Siewert	29/10/2020	105	DESE - Employment	Mutual obligation re-engagement's	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Are there any of those in this group with penalties in the 741/2 thousand who have not re-engaged?</p> <p>Ms Pitt: I don't have that.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: We can take that on notice. We don't have it with us at the moment.</p>	10/12/2020
115	SQ20-001881	Spoken	Rachel Siewert	29/10/2020	107	DESE - Employment	Value of ParentsNext contracts	<p>Senator SIEWERT: ... Are you able to tell me the value of the contracts by provider or tell me where to go and find it?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I will take that on notice, because normally we don't provide provider level contract information for various commercial and privacy reasons. We have aggregate numbers. I will take that on notice, though.</p>	10/12/2020
116	SQ20-001882	Spoken	Murray Watt	29/10/2020	111	DESE - Employment	Employment Fund	<p>Mr Smyth: To assist with some of the pressures that may have been in the employment fund, the government also made a decision to enable the Career Transition Assistance program to have its own separate funding pool of \$41 million. That started to relieve some potential pressure in the employment fund. As I said, in the last two budgets, the government has made increases of around \$35 million each financial year into the employment fund. But there are some large projections of money in the forward estimates that will be made available in the employment fund. I don't have them right on me now, but we can provide them to you on notice as well.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Yes, sure.</p>	10/12/2020
117	SQ20-001883	Spoken	Murray Watt	29/10/2020	112	DESE - Employment	Restart wage subsidy	<p>Senator WATT: Can you confirm the report in the Guardian that only \$254 million of a budgeted \$524.8 million allocated to this program since 2014-15 has been spent?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator WATT: I think the point is that the program came in in 2014. I don't have the report in front of me, but I understand it said that \$524.8 million was allocated around 2014.</p> <p>Mr Smyth: That is correct. There were some changes made to, as I understand it, the funding pool and the like that was for this Restart wage subsidy through various policy changes. I will take that on notice. But that figure of \$254 million is the one that has been spent as at 31 August this year.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So why has there been such a difficulty in getting the money out the door for this program?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: It is very much dependent on our employment service providers brokering wage subsidy agreements with employers for the circumstances of the individual. Another things that has obviously occurred is that our caseload had been reducing substantially up until 20 March this year. That has meant that there has been probably in some respects less demand on some of those arrangements. If I can take some of your previous questions on notice and provide you with further detail, we will do that.</p>	10/12/2020
118	SQ20-001887	Spoken	Murray Watt	29/10/2020	112-113	DESE - Employment	Restart wage subsidy	<p>Senator WATT: Here is another one. I return to those figures about the number of people who have remained in employment for 12 weeks or 26 weeks. What that really means is that even under Restart, about 60 per cent of the mature age workers who participate in the program have lost their job after half a year?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I could not say that they've lost their jobs. They may have selected to actually leave that employment. The employer may have closed the business. There may have been personal circumstances that led to them departing employment. It's too difficult to actually say on what arrangements-</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Fifty per cent of them are back on social security?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: I don't have those figures as to whether or not those people return to income support.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You don't track that?</p> <p>Mr Smyth: It's impossible to track. We would have to go back and look over records as to whether or not those participants who had a Restart wage subsidy that either ended early or didn't last the 26 weeks actually returned to income support. I'd have to take that on notice. Once people leave the income support system, we don't track them.</p>	10/12/2020
119	SQ20-001890	Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	113	DESE - Employment	Evaluation of Restart	<p>Senator PRATT: Your website says that the evaluation of Restart will be completed with a final report to the department's employment steering committee in December 2017. The report could have been released in 2018. Was it released?</p> <p>Ms Shannon: The department took a decision to not separately evaluate the Restart measure and instead to incorporate the evaluation of Restart into the final evaluation of the jobactive program. We have provided that advice a number of times on record in questions on notice. However, I can advise that we have completed our statistical analysis of the effectiveness of the Restart wage subsidy. The evidence suggests that Restart has a positive effect on whether participants achieve a 26-week employment outcome. It has a 17 percentage point difference for people who are placed with a Restart wage subsidy compared to similar job seekers who are not placed with the wage subsidy. It has an eight percentage point effect in terms of people placed with the Restart wage subsidy exiting income support within 12 months. The evidence also suggests that people placed with a Restart wage subsidy were still off income support 12 months after starting their job. The difference there was 6.5 percentage points. So the impact analysis suggests that it's quite an effective strategy to assist mature age workers to gain sustained employment, exit income support and remain off income support.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: Have you done any analysis of how job service providers will compete with a scheme where an employer and an individual can go to the ATO?</p> <p>Ms Shannon: Certainly that's not part of the evaluation approach. I can say that our evaluation evidence on wage subsidies going back to the Job Services Australia contract suggests that the role of providers is quite critical in the effectiveness of the wage subsidies that we administer. Where providers have the flexibility to negotiate with employers to target particular job seekers and the amounts and durations, those types of wage subsidies are quite effective.</p> <p>Senator PRATT: In the remaining seconds, I will ask if we can have tabled the data from that evaluation.</p> <p>Ms Shannon: I can certainly provide on notice the analysis that I just referred to.</p>	10/12/2020
120	SQ20-001911	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Defence trade controls act	<p>Have there been any breaches of the defence trade controls act?</p>	10/12/2020
121	SQ20-001913	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	ARC applications	<p>Has the Minister for Education exercised any form of veto on any ARC application in 2020?</p>	10/12/2020
122	SQ20-001914	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Thousand Talents Plan	<p>Is it illegal to be associated with the Thousand Talents Plan?</p>	10/12/2020
123	SQ20-001915	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Review of Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) and the Engagement and Impact Assessment	<p>Can the ARC please provide the submissions that have been made to the review of Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) and the Engagement and Impact Assessment (EI)?</p> <p>a. How many submissions did the review receive and on what dates?</p>	10/12/2020
124	SQ20-001916	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Allegation against a researchers	<p>Can the ARC please explain what is the standard process issues when following up with institutions where any sort of allegation has been made against a researcher who has received ARC funding that's in the public domain?</p> <p>a. What is the benchmark that the ARC uses in determining a need for an investigation?</p>	10/12/2020
125	SQ20-001917	Written	Kim Carr	6/11/2020		DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Research Sustainability Working Group	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the current status of the Research Sustainability Working Group?</p> <p>Mr English: It continues to meet on a roughly fortnightly basis.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: For how long do you anticipate that that will occur?</p> <p>Mr English: That's a matter for the minister and the group. I'd expect there will be a few more meetings yet to go.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: They were supposed to come up with a sustainable research funding model. Has that happened yet?</p> <p>Mr English: The investment in 2020-21, which is about sustaining the sector through the challenges they can see now, was developed in close discussion with that group.</p> <p>Hansard, Page 60, Senate Wednesday, 28 October 2020</p> <p>1. On what date was the 2020-21 investments discussed at Research Sustainability Working Group?</p> <p>a. Who was in attendance at these meetings?</p> <p>b. Can the department please provide the meeting minutes?</p>	10/12/2020
126	SQ20-001948	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Caseload data for the jobactive program	<p>1. Please provide the latest available caseload data for the jobactive program:</p> <p>a. Number of people assisted broken down by age, stream and duration of unemployment (under one year, 1-2 years, 2 years and over)</p> <p>b. Number of people in online and provider services, broken down as above</p> <p>2. Please provide the same information for the last financial year (2019-20), including flows into the program.</p>	10/12/2020
127	SQ20-001950	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020		DESE - Employment	jobactive services	<p>In 2019-20, what was spent on jobactive services, broken down as follows:</p> <p>a. By stream, where people were assisted by providers</p> <p>b. By stream, for those assisted by online services</p> <p>c. Administrative, Outcome and Employment Fund expenditure respectively.</p>	10/12/2020

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128	SQ20-001952	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Employment Service Expert Panel	The Employment Service Expert Panel recommended in 2018 that any savings from online services should be redirected to 'enhanced services' for people more disadvantaged in the labour market. Has the government accepted this recommendation? Will it be implemented?	10/12/2020
129	SQ20-001953	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Caseload per employment consultant	1. What is the estimated average caseload per employment consultant in jobactive services? 2. Has this increased or decreased since COVID? 3. Given current caseloads, how many jobseekers would a consultant interview on average each working day?	10/12/2020
130	SQ20-001956	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Income support claim	Can you please detail the \$20.7 million to simplify the income support claiming process, reduce the time it takes and improve the process for job seekers to start receiving the employment support they need to find a job.	10/12/2020
131	SQ20-001958	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Employment Fund credits	Can you please detail the "\$35.8 million in 2021-22 to maintain Employment Fund credits to ensure employment services providers can continue to provide job seekers the support they need to become job-ready and keep a job" - what stream is this and for what?	10/12/2020
132	SQ20-001959	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Appropriation for jobactive and related services	Why is the appropriation for jobactive and related services projected to be \$2 billion for next 4 years including 2022-23 when the New Employment Services transition will have occurred?	10/12/2020
133	SQ20-001960	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Job seekers	1. How many job seekers/participants projected to be in jobactive, NEST, OES, work for the dole, PaTH EST, TFW, and ParentsNext every year until 2023? 2. How many job seekers with part earnings are projected to be in jobactive every year until 2023?	10/12/2020
134	SQ20-001962	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Local Jobs Program	What public information is there about the Local Jobs Program?	10/12/2020
135	SQ20-001964	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Grants programs	1. Do all of the grants programs have grant guidelines that are readily available to the public? 2. Who is the decision-maker for these grants or funds? How is the decision-maker assisted in making their decisions - departmental advice, an advisory group, some other independent body? 3. Were there any new grants programs or funds established in the 2020 Budget or the July update that your department is responsible for? 4. If so, what are they, and how much funding was provided? 5. For the new grants programs, have grant guidelines been developed? Where are they up to at the moment? Will you be consulting with the Department of Finance on these guidelines? 6. For the new grants programs, who will be the decision-maker for the grants? How will the decision-maker be assisted in making their decisions, will it be departmental advice? An advisory group? Some other independent body? 7. For the new funds, how will funding be distributed? 8. For the new funds, who will be the decision-maker for the funding? How will the decision-maker be assisted in making their decisions, will it be departmental advice? An advisory group? Some other independent body?	10/12/2020
136	SQ20-001967	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Grants process	1. How will the decision making process ensure grants go to projects based on merit, and not whether they are in a marginal or target Liberal seat? 2. Will the Department be having regard to the sports rorts scandal to ensure that is not repeated? 3. What assurance can you give that this will not be another sports rorts scandal - and that projects will be funded based on their merit and not where they fall on the Prime Minister's colour coded spreadsheet?	10/12/2020
137	SQ20-001969	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Additional funding for grants programs	1. Were there any grants programs or funds that you administer that were provided with additional funding in the 2020 Budget or the July update? 2. If so, what were they, and how much funding was provided?	10/12/2020
138	SQ20-001983	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Youth Jobs Path announcement	1. I refer to the Youth Jobs Path announcement on page 76 of Budget Paper 2, where PaTH becomes demand driven rather than capped. Why was this decision made? 2. Does this result in a lower funding allocations? 3. What is the total number of interns since creation, and how many were employed after the internship?	10/12/2020
139	SQ20-001984	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	JWM Communications	Estimates has discussed JWM Communications before. They were given \$17,000 in taxpayer funds to host 17 interns, but despite effectively getting 68 hours of free labour, did not hire a single one. I understand the company was booted from the PaTH program by the Department - has the Department requested the firm pay that \$17,000 back? Have they done so?	10/12/2020
140	SQ20-001986	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Youth Jobs Path program	Can you please provide the following: a. Historical budget allocations and actual spending by budget year b. Projected forward estimates for funding under the pre-Budget scenario, and under the demand driven model announced in the budget c. The top 10 employers of the program by financial year since inception, the number of places subsidised, and total funding received.	10/12/2020
141	SQ20-001988	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Youth Jobs Path program wage subsidies	How many wage subsidies were provided under the Youth Jobs Path program from January to August 2019 and over the same period in 2020? Can these be: a. broken down by gender and duration of unemployment (under one year, 1-2 years, 2 years and over) b. proportion of those with wage subsidies from January to August 2019 were employed after the subsidy expired?	10/12/2020
142	SQ20-001990	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Contract for a Parliamentary Officer	A recent contract was awarded (AusTender: https://www.tenders.gov.au/Cn/Show/537414e6-dde4-4c87-aa12-22e3f3e3e1d6) in which a three-month contract for a Parliamentary Officer was awarded at a cost of \$94,000. (Contract Notice View - CN2719876) 1. Can you please explain what a "Parliamentary Officer" entails? For example, in a tender notice, what would that contract be about? 2. I want to ask about a recent contract that was awarded by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment. The contract runs for three months, from September to December, and awarded \$94,000 to Hays Personnel. Can you explain what the role was and the basis for this rate?	10/12/2020
143	SQ20-001991	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Administered and discretionary grant programs	Please provide, for all administered and discretionary grant programs administered by each Department and Agency within the portfolio for FY 2019-20 to date: a. Name of the administered or discretionary grant program. b. The recipient of the grant. c. The ABN or ACN of the grant recipient. d. The charitable status of the grant recipient. e. Who authorised the grant payment? f. For each year of the budget and forward estimates: i. What is the total funding budgeted for the program? ii. How much funding has been contracted and allocated? iii. How much funding has been contracted but not allocated? iv. How much funding has been committed but not contracted? v. How much funding is uncommitted, uncontracted and unallocated?	10/12/2020
144	SQ20-001993	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	AASN contracts and tenders	1. On 30 May 2016, contract notice CN3345385-AS was published for a contract to NSW Business Chamber. The contract is for \$14.4 million, was awarded via the Department of Education, Skills and Employment, and ran from 1 July 2015 to 31 January 2020. What was that for? 2. It appears another series of contracts were awarded at that time with the title Australia Apprentice Support Network (AASN) - can you confirm the other contracts at that time worth \$27.4 million, \$40 million, \$71.2 million, and \$6 million - were for the AASN in various states and territories too? 3. What were the number of jobs or apprentice numbers modelled to be created by this initiative? 4. What evaluation has been done of the AASN program and its roll out by a non government body? What safeguards are there in the tenders to ensure all the money is spent on the AASN? 5. Were these contracts awarded without tender? 6. Why was a Business Chamber awarded the apprenticeship program?	10/12/2020
145	SQ20-001996	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	ARC Senate Order	1. The Senate Order required the ARC's recommendations to the Minister from June to be published by July 15th. Why weren't they published until August 17th? 2. Did the ARC ask the Minister for permission to publish the June recommendations by July 15th? 3. Did the Minister instruct the ARC not to publish their June recommendations by July 15th? 4. Did the Minister provide a reason for the ARC not to publish their June recommendations by July 15th? 5. Why were the ARC's recommendations from July not published until August 17th (instead of by August 15th as required by the Senate Order)? [Same sub-questions as above.] 6. For the Discovery Early Career Research Awards 2021 (DE21), when were the ARC's recommendations sent to the Minister? 7. By what date were the recommendations ready to be sent to the Minister? 8. [If the above two dates differ by more than, say, 1 week] Why did the ARC hold back recommendations to the Minister when they knew this would likely cause a further month (or more) delay to researchers knowing their outcomes, many of whom would consequently have to begin (and possibly finish) preparing a DE22 application as a result? 9. By what date had all National Interest Test statements for these grants been checked and finalised within the ARC? 10. What other administrative steps were required after National Interest Test statements are finalised before recommendations were sent to the Minister?	10/12/2020

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146	SQ20-001997	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	National Interest Test	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the purpose of the ARC requesting that universities edit NIT statements in grants that are to be recommended to the Minister for funding? 2. For what reasons does the ARC consider requesting NIT edits in a particular grant proposal? 3. Is it just a matter of compliance with the ARC's language requirements, or is it the substance of the NIT statements? 4. If it's the substance, what criteria are used to judge when an edit request will be made? 5. What is the process the ARC follows in requesting that universities edit NIT statements? 6. Did the Minister instruct or ask the ARC to request NIT edits from universities? 7. Did the Minister provide criteria for how NIT statements should be edited? 8. What instructions has the ARC been given by the Minister about requesting edits to NIT statements? 9. Is the ARC concerned about the additional administrative burden that conducting the NIT editing process has placed on it? 10. For just the Discovery Projects scheme alone, all the 150-word NIT statements of approximately 700 grants (to be recommended for funding) would add up to more than 100,000 words, or about 200 pages. How much ARC staff time did it take to check all this for the Discovery Projects 2021 round, and administer the edit-request and subsequent rechecking processes? 11. How much ARC staff time is devoted to the NIT checking and editing process in total over all schemes? 12. Were more staff employed by the ARC to cover this additional administrative burden after the Minister introduced the NIT? 13. If not, what other ARC activities have been discontinued, scaled back or, if possible, made more efficient to compensate? 14. Is the NIT returning value for tax-payer's money? Is the NIT in the National Interest? 	10/12/2020
147	SQ20-001999	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	COVID-19 Response funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I note the Minister's announcement on 19 October that the "Government will direct a greater proportion of the \$800 million per year in research grants provided through the Australian Research Council (ARC)... [which] would effectively increase the amount of funding available for important industry-engaged research by around \$30 million a year". From which Discovery program schemes will this \$30 million come from? 2. How much will each Discovery scheme be reduced because of this? And in which year? 	10/12/2020
148	SQ20-002000	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Assessment reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many assessment review requests did the ARC receive in 2019, and how many so far in 2020? 2. How many, in each year, resulted in the ARC requesting assessors amend their assessment text? 3. How many, in each year, resulted in the ARC removing the assessment? 	10/12/2020
149	SQ20-002001	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Criteria for what constitutes an inappropriate review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the critical importance of obtaining ARC grant support to researcher's careers - or even the possibility of having a research career - is the ARC concerned that its criteria for what constitutes an inappropriate review are too narrow and strict? (i.e. "Defamatory or discriminatory/biased comments", from https://www.arc.gov.au/grants/grant-application/rejoinders) 2. Even if reviews are not strictly defamatory or discriminatory/biased in obvious ways, does the ARC consider it appropriate to allow obviously unprofessional reviews to inform the decisions of its selection committees? 	10/12/2020
150	SQ20-002002	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Selection committees: decisions	Associate Professor Jack Clegg, at the University of Queensland, tweeted on July 30th that one reviewer for his Linkage, Infrastructure, Equipment & Facilities (LIEF) 2021 proposal wrote "There is no way that the team can be outstanding ([relative] to opportunity) because it includes junior researchers on non-continuing contracts". Does the ARC consider this comment to be appropriate to inform its selection committees' decisions?	10/12/2020
151	SQ20-002003	Written	Don Farrell	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Defamatory or discriminatory review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If a researcher receives a defamatory or discriminatory review, in a grant scheme that may well determine whether they have a future research career, how long does the ARC consider it reasonable for the researcher to lodge an assessment review request? 2. Is 3 working days appropriate? 3. For whom is it appropriate - the ARC or the researcher? The researcher must first discuss this with their Research Office, presumably have it signed off by senior people within the university etc. Even in the best circumstances, 3 days is extremely short for this. 4. The whole period for researchers to submit a normal rejoinder to reviews is 2 weeks. Why is the period for requesting an assessment review only 3 days? 5. Is the ARC concerned that lodging an assessment review request within 3 days will be most difficult for precisely the demographic groups most likely to receive defamatory or discriminatory reviews? 6. What if a researcher has unavoidable, or unplanned, caring responsibilities in that 3 days - is that considered an "exceptional circumstance" for extending the deadline for requests? 7. What about planned caring responsibilities, intense field work requiring all the researchers' attention, or periods of leave - must they be planned to avoid the first 3 days of a rejoinder period because those are the only days in which they can respond to a defamatory or discriminatory review? 	10/12/2020
152	SQ20-002019	Written	Don Farrell	11/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Women in STEM	<p>Background:</p> <p>The budget papers list \$25.1 million allocated to "establish a Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Industry Cadetship program to support 500 women working in STEM industries to complete an Advanced Diploma through a combination of study and work integrated learning experiences" (BP 2, p. 67, Cross Portfolio).</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What consultations were undertaken in developing this initiative? 2. What is the duration of the cadetship? 3. How was it determined that this was an appropriate amount of funding and/or an appropriate number of women to provide support to given the ongoing, chronic issue of women being underrepresented in STEM industries and professions in Australia? 4. How will the long term success of this initiative be evaluated? 5. Does any research or modelling exist to suggest 500 women is enough for this initiative to be capped at? 	10/12/2020
153	SQ20-001712	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Specialist teacher librarians	What efforts have been made to collect data on staffing and qualifications of specialist teacher librarians in Australian schools?	10/12/2020
154	SQ20-001718	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Schools	School library staffing	What is the federal government doing to support quality school library staffing in schools?	10/12/2020
155	SQ20-001725	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	10% discount for Commonwealth Supported Students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will universities be compensated for the potential loss of revenue arising from the 10% discount Commonwealth Supported Students will be given for paying at least \$500 of their tuition fees upfront? 2. Will the Maximum Basic Grant Amount be increased to reflect the value of the discounts? 3. Has the Department undertaken an analysis of the impact on the 10% discount? 4. How many students are likely to take advantage of the discounts? 5. Did the department analyse the demographics of students most likely to take advantage of the discounts? If so, what were they? 	10/12/2020
156	SQ20-001726	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Data on Grants and CSP	<p>Could the Department provide actual or estimated data on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The value of total Maximum Basic Grant Amounts (MBGSA) that each eligible university or higher education provider be entitled to in each of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. b. The value of, indexation, growth places, transition, HEPP, research block grants, NPLIF and NRLSAF funding that each eligible university or higher education provider are estimated to receive in each of 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 c. The number of CSPs enrolments at each university had in 2020 and the number of growth places it will be entitled to in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. d. Any other CSP places including estimated demand driven remote Ingenious or other "national priority" allocations for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. 	10/12/2020
157	SQ20-001727	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	International students studying in Australia	Have you revised your estimates of international students that will be studying in Australia in 2021? If so, what are the latest figures?	10/12/2020
158	SQ20-001728	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Australia's reputation with international students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department concerned about Australia's reputation with international student markets declining due to the lack of support for international students and temporary migrant visa holders? 2. How is the Department tracking Australian international education reputation? 	10/12/2020
159	SQ20-001729	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Modelling on the economic cost	Has the Department done any modelling on the economic cost of the decline in international student enrolments and decline in international students migrating to Australia?	10/12/2020
160	SQ20-001731	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	2/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Recommendations of the Respect@Work report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will TEQSA work with the Respect@Work Council that will be established to implement the recommendations of the Respect@Work report? 2. Will TEQSA have any representation on the Council? 3. Recommendation 12 of the Respect@Work report recommends the Australian Government support providers to improve sexual harassment training, including through TEQSA and the Australian Skills Quality Authority. Has TEQSA received any additional funding to assist with this work? Did TEQSA request additional funding for this work at any stage? 	10/12/2020
161	SQ20-001739	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Hourly Rate Cap	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is current median hourly fee for Centre Based Day Care: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nationally b. By state and territory c. By metropolitan, regional, remote and very remote areas. 2. How many children attend services where the fee is higher than the Child Care Subsidy hourly rate cap? 3. How many services in the capital cities have fees higher than the rate caps? 4. What is the current median out-of-pocket cost for Centre Based Day Care: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nationally b. By state and territory c. By metropolitan, regional, remote and very remote areas. 	10/12/2020
162	SQ20-001740	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	In Home Care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many In Home Care places are currently being used of the 3,200 places nationally? 2. How many In Home Care places were being used in the Reference Week that the Department used to calculate services' relief package payments, earlier this year? 	10/12/2020
163	SQ20-001741	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Family Day Care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it a requirement that Family Day Care educators must have Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) in order to operate? 2. How many Family Day Care educators currently have Australian Business Numbers? 3. How many Family Day Care educators do not currently have Australian Business Numbers? 	10/12/2020

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164	SQ20-001744	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	CCS 24	1. How many families and children were accessing 24 hours of subsidised care per fortnight under the Child Care Safety Net in the most recent period, and how does that compare with the comparable period last year? 2. When the CCS legislation passed the Parliament in 2017, the Government said that the 24 hours of subsidised care per fortnight under the Child Care Safety Net would be sufficient to cover two six-hour days for children to access early learning. Of the children accessing CCS24: a. How many are attending: i. One day of care ii. Two days of care iii. More than two days of care, per week; b. How many are accessing two six-hour day sessions? 3. How many services are offering six hour day sessions?	10/12/2020
165	SQ20-001745	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Inclusion Support Program	1. How much was spent by the Inclusion Support Program and its sub-programs in each year from 2016 to 2020? 2. How much is budgeted for the Inclusion Support Program for this year and over the forward estimates? 3. How many children were supported by the program in each year from 2016 to 2020? 4. How many children are expected to be supported by the program in 2020-21?	10/12/2020
166	SQ20-001746	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	3/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	General data	1. Please provide the breakdown of families receiving Child Care Subsidy by Federal Electorate similar to the table provided in response SQ17-001290. 2. Please provide figures on families receiving Long Day Care, Family Day Care and Outside of School Hours Care by activity test band (24 hours, 36 hours, 72 hours, 100 hours) as provided in SQ18-000833. 3. How much funding was withheld from which states for not meeting key performance indicators under the NPAUAECEC in each year from 2018 to 2020? 4. Which states failed to meet the performance criteria on the NPAUAECEC in 2018, 2019 and 2020 and by how much? 5. Could you please provide a breakdown of families accessing Child Care Subsidy by the following CCS bands : 85%, 70-84.9%, 60-69.9%, 50%, 40-49.9%, 30-39.9%, 20-29.9%? 6. Please provide a breakdown of sessions in centre-based services that were of the following lengths: 0-5.9 hours, 6-6.9 hours, 7-8.9 hours, 9-9.9 hours, 10-10.9 hours, 11-11.9 hours, 12 hours, More than 12 hours. 7. Referring to SQ20-000024, please update tables 1 and 2 with the latest data and estimates over the forward estimates period.	10/12/2020
167	SQ20-001921	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Investigation into Charles Sturt University	1. What issues are part of TEQSA's investigation into Charles Sturt University? 2. Do Charles Sturt University's Council rules for the conduct of Council meetings provide that summaries of meetings must be made available for staff and students? a. If so, is this practice being followed? b. When were minutes last made available for staff and students? 3. What expectations does TEQSA have about how issues of confidentiality and transparency are managed in publicly funded institutions such as Charles Sturt University? 4. As part of the re-registration process of higher education providers, TEQSA imposed six conditions on Charles Sturt University's (CSU) registration in 2019, including one relating to corporate and academic governance (Standards 3.4, 3.7 and 3.8). To address this issue CSU was required to "implement recommendations arising from the 2018 external review of academic governance [conducted by Prof Hilary Winchester]" (from TEQSA website) The Winchester review made recommendations for a better balance between the university's corporate and academic governance responsibilities and clearer separations between its academic governance and academic management responsibilities. a. What evidence does TEQSA have that these recommendations have been enacted? b. What has TEQSA done to ensure there are no issues with Charles Sturt University's recently changed academic governance processes and procedures that enabled rapid and significant reductions in subject and course offerings (course optimisation process) being implemented in 2020 as part of their Sustainable Futures programme?	10/12/2020
168	SQ20-001926	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Murdoch University	1. Did TEQSA recommend or suggest any changes to Murdoch University's organisational structure and/or staffing as part of its recent compliance assessment? a. If so, what were these recommendations and/or suggestions? 2. Did TEQSA account for Murdoch University's immigration risk rating as determined by the Department of Home Affairs in its compliance assessment? 3. Did TEQSA verify that any data on student performance that was provided to TEQSA by Murdoch University during the compliance assessment was presented in the same way that it was originally collected? 4. Did TEQSA include in its compliance assessment the international education agents which have or did have a relationship with Murdoch University? a. If so, which agents were considered?	10/12/2020
169	SQ20-001931	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Internships, training & placements	1. How many people participated in work placements or got a job through the below programs, and how does this compare to projections? a. Work for the Dole b. Transition to Work c. Community Development Program d. Time to Work e. Restart f. PaTH g. Capped Wage Subsidy Pool 2. What are the rates of conversion to sustainable employment and what were the long term employment outcomes for people who participated in an internship, work placement or training program as part of the below programs, broken down by jobactive provider site or host organisation? a. Work for the Dole b. Transition to Work c. Community Development Program d. Time to Work e. Restart f. PaTH g. Capped Wage Subsidy Pool 3. Please provide any data the department has about the industries, business and types of work or training activities undertaken by income support recipients participating in internships, training and work placements as part of the following programs: a. Work for the Dole b. Transition to Work c. Community Development Program d. Time to Work e. Restart	10/12/2020
170	SQ20-001933	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	PaTH internships	How many PaTH internships were terminated early, broken down by who terminated the internship (ie. participant, host or employment services provider)?	10/12/2020
171	SQ20-001934	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Mutual obligation	How many people participated in a training course run by a Registered Training Organisation to fulfil mutual obligation requirements, and how many of these people were in employment within 12 weeks of completing the course?	10/12/2020
172	SQ20-001935	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Courses under the JobTrainer package	Please provide a list of courses that are eligible for free or at a low fee under the JobTrainer package.	10/12/2020
173	SQ20-001968	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Approved Authority schools	For each Approved Authority what is the AA ID number, the names of the schools that are part of it, the suburb or town those schools are located along with the state and the Commonwealth electoral district the schools are in. Please provide this in a machine readable spreadsheet	10/12/2020
174	SQ20-001970	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Approved Authority (SRS funding)	For each Approved Authority please provide in a machine readable spreadsheet the AA ID number, proportion of the SRS provided by the Commonwealth in 2019 and 2020, the total Commonwealth funding from all sources in 2019 and 2020 and the per student funding amount in 2019 and 2020.	10/12/2020
175	SQ20-001971	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Capital funding for Catholic and Independent sector (2020 to 2029)	For each year 2020 to 2029 what is the current estimate of how much capital funding the Catholic and Independent sectors will be allocated in each state and territory and what is the estimated total over that period.	10/12/2020
176	SQ20-001972	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Independent school funding	For each Independent school please provide the school name, suburb, town and state plus the Commonwealth funding from all sources in 2018 (total and per student) and the estimated total and per student funding from all sources in 2027. Also the total amount expected to be delivered over that period and the percentage difference between the 2018 and 2027 totals. Please provide this in a machine readable spreadsheet.	10/12/2020
177	SQ20-001973	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Funding (2018 to 2027)	For each school sector in each state what is the total estimated Commonwealth funding from all sources for each year from 2018 to 2027 and the per student amounts. Also the national totals by sector and per student for each year.	10/12/2020
178	SQ20-001974	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Schools SES or CTC score	Has the current Minister for Education intervened to determine the SES or CTC score of any school? If yes, please provide the name of the school, the score before and after the decision as well as the estimated per student and total annual funding before the decision and after the decision.	10/12/2020
179	SQ20-001975	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Non-government school starting share in 2019 or 2020	Has the starting share of any non-government school been reset in 2019 or 2020? If so please provide a table showing the school name, suburb or town, the adjusted share and the share prior to the decision as well as the estimated per student funding and total annual funding before and after the decision.	10/12/2020
180	SQ20-001976	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Choice and Affordability fund (Catholic and Independent schools)	How much are Catholic and Independent schools in each state and territory receiving under the Choice and Affordability fund each year?	10/12/2020
181	SQ20-001977	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Choice and Affordability fund agreements (Catholic and Independent)	Please supply copies of the Choice and Affordability fund agreements between the department and each state and territory Catholic and Independent authority and the work plans received.	10/12/2020
182	SQ20-001978	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Capital funding in 2021	Which non-government schools have been allocated capital funding for 2021 and what is the amount allocated to each school?	10/12/2020

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183	SQ20-001979	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	National Teacher Workforce Strategy	What progress has been made on a National Teacher Workforce Strategy and what are the areas of focus in that strategy? What research has been commissioned as part of the strategy or in preparation for it? Please list the details of each piece of research, the cost, timing, commissioning organisation and provide copies of the reports or summaries. What reports from the Australian Teacher Workforce data collection have been supplied from AITSL to the department or the Education Council? List the dates they were supplied, the titles and please provide copies.	10/12/2020
184	SQ20-001980	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Number of teachers required for future years	What are the Commonwealth's projections for the number of additional teachers that will be required in future years in Australia by state and territory and nationally over the next decade?	10/12/2020
185	SQ20-001981	Written	Mehreen Faruqi	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	National Evidence Institute funding	What is the projected funding each year for the National Evidence Institute? What is the annual level of remuneration for the director and board members? What public opinion and education sector research has been conducted so far by the department relating to the establishment, operation or work of the institute? Please list each the name and details of each project, the total or estimated cost, timing and deliverables and provide copies of each report.	10/12/2020
186	SQ20-001895	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount. d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
187	SQ20-001896	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020
188	SQ20-001897	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
189	SQ20-001898	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020
190	SQ20-001900	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
191	SQ20-001901	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020
192	SQ20-001903	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
193	SQ20-001904	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020
194	SQ20-001905	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
195	SQ20-001907	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020
196	SQ20-001908	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
197	SQ20-001909	Written	Katy Gallagher	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020

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198	SQ20-001894	Written	Kristina Keneally	6/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Seasonal Worker's Programme funding	The Government announced \$9m over three years from 2020-21 to "ensure the welfare of Pacific workers participating in the Seasonal Worker's Programme by increasing assurance measures and boosting community connections." a. How will this funding specifically and directly support the workers in this scheme (and not focus only on ensuring a continuity of workers required in this sector)? Please include specifics on tangible benefits workers will receive. b. Why is school resource/education development not been included in the budget allocations for fighting Modern Slavery? c. How was this decision reached? Please be specific about who, why and how this decision was reached.	10/12/2020
199	SQ20-002058	Written	Kimberley Kitching	2/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Ministerial functions	1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
200	SQ20-002021	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Executive Management	In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020: a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.	10/12/2020
201	SQ20-002022	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Ministerial functions	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
202	SQ20-002023	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
203	SQ20-002024	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Executive office upgrades	Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	10/12/2020
204	SQ20-002025	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.	10/12/2020
205	SQ20-002026	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	10/12/2020
206	SQ20-002027	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
207	SQ20-002028	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
208	SQ20-002029	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Executive travel	Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus/receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020
209	SQ20-002030	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Departmental staff allowances	Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020
210	SQ20-002031	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.	10/12/2020
211	SQ20-002032	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all AusTender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
212	SQ20-002033	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all AusTender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020
213	SQ20-002034	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all AusTender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020

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214	SQ20-002035	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	<p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <p>a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/ or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p>	10/12/2020
215	SQ20-002036	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020:</p> <p>a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p>	10/12/2020
216	SQ20-002037	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Media monitoring	<p>1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided? c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided? c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.</p>	10/12/2020
217	SQ20-002038	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Ministerial functions	<p>1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	10/12/2020
218	SQ20-002039	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	CDDA Payments	<p>1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020?</p> <p>2. How many claims were:</p> <p>a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration.</p> <p>3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide:</p> <p>a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.</p>	10/12/2020
219	SQ20-002040	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Recruitment	<p>1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.</p>	10/12/2020
220	SQ20-002041	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Staffing	<p>1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020.</p> <p>2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing.</p> <p>3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were:</p> <p>a. voluntary b. involuntary.</p> <p>4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies.</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff.</p> <p>6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020
221	SQ20-002042	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Comcare	<p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status.</p> <p>2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020
222	SQ20-002043	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Fair Work Commission	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.</p>	10/12/2020
223	SQ20-002044	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Fair Work Ombudsman	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.</p>	10/12/2020
224	SQ20-002045	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.</p>	10/12/2020
225	SQ20-002046	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Public Interest Disclosures	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.</p>	10/12/2020
226	SQ20-002047	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Departmental functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p>	10/12/2020
227	SQ20-002048	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Executive office upgrades	<p>Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).</p>	10/12/2020
228	SQ20-002049	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.</p>	10/12/2020
229	SQ20-002050	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Facilities upgrades	<p>1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</p> <p>2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p>	10/12/2020
230	SQ20-002051	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Staff travel	<p>What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020
231	SQ20-002052	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Legal costs	<p>What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020

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232	SQ20-002053	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	<p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Date commissioned. Date report handed to Government. Date of public release. Terms of Reference. Committee members and/or Reviewers. <p>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</p> <p>5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level.</p> <p>7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p>	10/12/2020
233	SQ20-002054	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Departmental staff in Minister's office	<p>1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of secondment. APS level. <p>2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level.</p>	10/12/2020
234	SQ20-002055	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The total number of executive management positions The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. The change in the number of executive manager positions. <p>4. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p>	10/12/2020
235	SQ20-002056	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Board Appointments	<p>1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p> <p>2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio</p> <p>3. Please detail any board appointments made from 30 June 2020 to date.</p> <p>4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid.</p> <p>5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors.</p> <p>6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors.</p>	10/12/2020
236	SQ20-002057	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Stationery	<p>How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020
237	SQ20-002059	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Departmental functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> List of functions. List of all attendees. Function venue. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). Details of any food served. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. Any available photographs of the function. Details of any entertainment provided. 	10/12/2020
238	SQ20-002060	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Executive office upgrades	<p>Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).</p>	10/12/2020
239	SQ20-002061	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Executive Management	<p>In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The total number of executive management positions The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. The change in the number of executive manager positions. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. 	10/12/2020
240	SQ20-002062	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Ministerial functions	<p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> List of functions. List of all attendees. Function venue. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). Details of any food served. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. Any available photographs of the function. Details of any entertainment provided. 	10/12/2020
241	SQ20-002063	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Departmental functions	<p>In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> List of functions. List of all attendees. Function venue. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). Details of any food served. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. Any available photographs of the function. Details of any entertainment provided. 	10/12/2020
242	SQ20-002064	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Secretarial travel	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided. 	10/12/2020
243	SQ20-002065	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Executive office upgrades	<p>Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).</p>	10/12/2020
244	SQ20-002066	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Departmental staff allowances	<p>Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.</p>	10/12/2020
245	SQ20-002067	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.</p>	10/12/2020
246	SQ20-002068	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Facilities upgrades	<p>1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</p> <p>2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p>	10/12/2020
247	SQ20-002069	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Research Council	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	<p>For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.</p>	10/12/2020
248	SQ20-002070	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Market research	<p>1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies.</p> <p>2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Subject matter Company Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 Contract date period <p>3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.</p>	10/12/2020
249	SQ20-002071	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020		Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Staff travel	<p>What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p>	10/12/2020

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250	SQ20-002072	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	10/12/2020
251	SQ20-002073	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/Agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
252	SQ20-002074	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Executive travel	Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020
253	SQ20-002075	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
254	SQ20-002076	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
255	SQ20-002077	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	ASQA Departmental staff allowances	Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020
256	SQ20-002078	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Legal costs	1. What are the total legal costs for the Department/Agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
257	SQ20-002079	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020
258	SQ20-002080	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.	10/12/2020
259	SQ20-002081	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Executive travel	1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020
260	SQ20-002082	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Departmental staff allowances	1. Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020
261	SQ20-002083	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
262	SQ20-002084	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.	10/12/2020
263	SQ20-002085	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020
264	SQ20-002086	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Ministerial overseas travel	1. Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 please be provided including: a. Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020
265	SQ20-002087	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
266	SQ20-002088	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020
267	SQ20-002089	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020

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268	SQ20-002090	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020
269	SQ20-002091	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.	10/12/2020
270	SQ20-002092	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020
271	SQ20-002093	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Media monitoring	1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21	10/12/2020
272	SQ20-002094	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.	10/12/2020
273	SQ20-002095	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Media monitoring	1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21	10/12/2020
274	SQ20-002096	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	CDDA Payments	1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: a. Accepted b. Rejected c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.	10/12/2020
275	SQ20-002097	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Media monitoring	1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21	10/12/2020
276	SQ20-002098	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
277	SQ20-002099	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	CDDA Payments	1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.	10/12/2020
278	SQ20-002100	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	CDDA Payments	1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.	10/12/2020

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279	SQ20-002101	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
280	SQ20-002102	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
281	SQ20-002103	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
282	SQ20-002104	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
283	SQ20-002105	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
284	SQ20-002106	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
285	SQ20-002107	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
286	SQ20-002108	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
287	SQ20-002109	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
288	SQ20-002110	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
289	SQ20-002111	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
290	SQ20-002112	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
291	SQ20-002113	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
292	SQ20-002114	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
293	SQ20-002115	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
294	SQ20-002116	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
295	SQ20-002117	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
296	SQ20-002118	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
297	SQ20-002119	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
298	SQ20-002120	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
299	SQ20-002121	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Executive Management	1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020: a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.	10/12/2020
300	SQ20-002122	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Ministerial functions	1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
301	SQ20-002123	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Departmental functions	1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020

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302	SQ20-002124	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Executive office upgrades	1. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	10/12/2020	
303	SQ20-002125	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.	10/12/2020	
304	SQ20-002126	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	10/12/2020	
305	SQ20-002127	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020	
306	SQ20-002128	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020	
307	SQ20-002129	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Executive travel	1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020	
308	SQ20-002130	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Departmental staff allowances	Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020	
309	SQ20-002131	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.	10/12/2020	
310	SQ20-002132	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020	
311	SQ20-002133	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020	
312	SQ20-002134	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020	
313	SQ20-002135	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.	10/12/2020	
314	SQ20-002136	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Executive Management	In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020: a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.	10/12/2020	
315	SQ20-002137	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Media monitoring	1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.	10/12/2020	
316	SQ20-002138	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Ministerial functions	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020	
317	SQ20-002139	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	CDDA Payments	1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.	10/12/2020	

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318	SQ20-002140	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
319	SQ20-002141	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
320	SQ20-002142	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
321	SQ20-002143	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Executive office upgrades	Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	10/12/2020
322	SQ20-002144	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.	10/12/2020
323	SQ20-002145	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
324	SQ20-002146	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
325	SQ20-002147	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	10/12/2020
326	SQ20-002148	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
327	SQ20-002149	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
328	SQ20-002150	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
329	SQ20-002151	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/Agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
330	SQ20-002152	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
331	SQ20-002153	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Executive travel	Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including: a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.	10/12/2020
332	SQ20-002154	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Departmental staff allowances	Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020
333	SQ20-002155	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred	10/12/2020
334	SQ20-002156	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
335	SQ20-002157	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020
336	SQ20-002158	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020

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337	SQ20-002159	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Commissioned Reports and Reviews	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/ or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.	10/12/2020
338	SQ20-002160	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Media monitoring	1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21. 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21	10/12/2020
339	SQ20-002161	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	CDDA Payments	1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020? 2. How many claims were: a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker.	10/12/2020
340	SQ20-002162	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
341	SQ20-002163	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
342	SQ20-002164	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
343	SQ20-002165	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
344	SQ20-002166	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
345	SQ20-002167	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
346	SQ20-002168	Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
347	SQ20-001732	Written	James McGrath	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	ARC Grants	Below are some ARC grants: • \$922,400 for 'Cultural values, birth and parenting: Reproductive health and Lao socialism'; • \$1,811,852 for 'A Sonic Approach to Anticolonialism in Interwar India'; • \$959,876 for 'Decolonisation and photography in Southeast Asia: Histories and legacies'; • \$271,000 for 'The war at home: art describes Australia's turbulent present'; • \$1,014,155 for 'Saving Lives: Mapping the influence of Indigenous LGBTIQ+ creative artists'; • \$100,000 for 'Transforming Tourists' Antarctic Experience'; • \$191,374 for 'A Just Climate Transition'; • \$1,025,000 for 'The Social Credit System and Everyday Life in China'; • \$1,062,98 for 'The role of community music in addressing social inequalities in Australia'; and • \$271,936 for 'Diversifying Music in Australia: Gender Equity in Jazz and Improvisation'. Do you think these grants are a good use of taxpayer funds?	10/12/2020
348	SQ20-001733	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
349	SQ20-001734	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
350	SQ20-001735	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
351	SQ20-001736	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
352	SQ20-001737	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
353	SQ20-001738	Written	Bridget McKenzie	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020

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354	SQ20-001747	Written	Helen Polley	3/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Education Investment Fund	In October last year Mr Morrison slashed \$3.9 billion from the Education Investment Fund, money intended to be invested in desperately needed infrastructure improvements in the TAFE and Higher Education sector. How does this not represent a cut to funding?	10/12/2020	
355	SQ20-001748	Written	Helen Polley	3/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Funds for the TAFE system	The announcement of an additional \$1.5 billion for a 50% wage subsidy is welcomed, however this is largely untied funds with no commitment being made to public VET services and in particular TAFE. TAFE will play a crucial role in improving Australia's skill system. Why haven't there been direct sources funnelled to our TAFE system? Is there a plan to do so?	10/12/2020	
356	SQ20-001749	Written	Helen Polley	3/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Skills shortage	We are currently facing a severe skills shortage throughout our country, in industries which include carpentry, plumbing, hair dressing... etc. what will be done to address this issue as current predictions show that the number of apprentice and trainees will decline further over the next three years. Surely, you must intervene and not leave it to the free market?	10/12/2020	
357	SQ20-001750	Written	Helen Polley	3/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Enrolments into TAFE	There has been a steady decline of enrolments into TAFE courses since a peak in 2012. This will be further exacerbated because of the impacts of COVID-19 on employment and recruitment. The announcement of the funding for 100,000 new apprenticeships doesn't even make up for the loss we have had over the past seven years, let alone what will be experienced in the wake of this recession. Will more funding be announced for apprenticeships and traineeships? If not, what is the plan to boost enrolments beyond the shortfall we are expected to experience?	10/12/2020	
358	SQ20-001751	Written	Helen Polley	3/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council report	Statistics from the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council report revealed there were approximately 700 fewer apprentices or trainee training contracts undertaken between May and June than the same period in 2019. Large-scale construction work has been in decline since March. As noted by Economist Saul Eslake in the past, whenever there has been a downturn in the Tasmanian construction industry, skilled people had moved to the mainland and often not returned when the market had improved. Energing Tasmania is expected to commence in 2020. More information on the initiative will be available soon. 1. How can this skills package be facilitated as more than \$1 billion has been ripped out of the TAFE system? Curriculums are out of date and materials, which students use are better fit for a museum. How will this make trainees and apprenticeships equip for the workforce? 2. The JobTrainer program does not offset the cuts made to TAFE and the loss of 140 000 apprenticeships. As a result of the COVID-19 recession, it is predicted that we will lose tens and thousands more apprentices over the coming years. Why hasn't more been done? Will additional funding be provided for TAFE? 3. Combined with the reduction in apprenticeships and a slowdown in construction activity, there will be a skills shortage in Tasmania. What investments will be made to combat this? 4. It is now October and still no announcement has been made for the Energing Tasmania initiative. When will this be announced?	10/12/2020	
359	SQ20-001705	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure." He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks." What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take 'to enhance the resilience of their networks' after the Prime Minister's warning? 2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity." Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference? 7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?	10/12/2020	
360	SQ20-001706	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure." He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks." What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take 'to enhance the resilience of their networks' after the Prime Minister's warning? 2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity." Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference? 7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?	10/12/2020	
361	SQ20-001707	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure." He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks." What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take 'to enhance the resilience of their networks' after the Prime Minister's warning? 2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity." Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference? 7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?	10/12/2020	

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362	SQ20-001708	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	<p>1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure."</p> <p>He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks."</p> <p>What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take "to enhance the resilience of their networks" after the Prime Minister's warning?</p> <p>2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity."</p> <p>Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference?</p> <p>7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?</p>	10/12/2020
363	SQ20-001709	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	<p>1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure."</p> <p>He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks."</p> <p>What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take "to enhance the resilience of their networks" after the Prime Minister's warning?</p> <p>2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity."</p> <p>Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference?</p> <p>7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?</p>	10/12/2020
364	SQ20-001710	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	<p>1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure."</p> <p>He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks."</p> <p>What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take "to enhance the resilience of their networks" after the Prime Minister's warning?</p> <p>2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity."</p> <p>Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference?</p> <p>7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?</p>	10/12/2020
365	SQ20-001711	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<p>1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains?</p> <p>2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails?</p> <p>3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"?</p> <p>6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?</p>	10/12/2020
366	SQ20-001713	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<p>1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains?</p> <p>2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails?</p> <p>3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC?</p> <p>5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"?</p> <p>6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?</p>	10/12/2020

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367	SQ20-001714	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? 2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? 3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? 4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? 5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? 6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains? 	10/12/2020
368	SQ20-001715	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? 2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? 3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? 4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? 5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? 6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains? 	10/12/2020
369	SQ20-001716	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? 2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? 3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? 4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? 5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? 6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains? 	10/12/2020
370	SQ20-001717	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? 2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? 3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? 4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? 5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? 6. The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains? 	10/12/2020
371	SQ20-001719	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	DESE - Cross Portfolio	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide? 	10/12/2020
372	SQ20-001720	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide? 	10/12/2020
373	SQ20-001721	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide? 	10/12/2020
374	SQ20-001722	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Research Council	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide? 	10/12/2020

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375	SQ20-001723	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide?	10/12/2020	
376	SQ20-001724	Written	Louise Pratt	2/11/2020	Agency: Australian Skills Quality Authority	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide?	10/12/2020	
377	SQ20-001899	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	National Quality Framework - Assessments	How many assessments against the National Quality Framework were undertaken in 2019/20, and how many were made in 2018/19?	10/12/2020	
378	SQ20-001902	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Bushfire-affected early learning centres	How many bushfire-affected early learning centres have received funding from the Community Child Care Fund in 2020? How much of the \$5 million allocated to bushfire relief in the CCCF has been allocated?	10/12/2020	
379	SQ20-001906	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Early childhood teaching degrees	Referring to SQ20-000031, how many students commenced early childhood teaching degrees in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019? How many students completed early childhood teaching degrees in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?	10/12/2020	
380	SQ20-001910	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Fees above the hourly fee cap	How many, and what percentage, of providers are charging fees above the hourly fee cap in centre based day care, family day care and outside school hours care? What proportion of families are in services above the fee cap? (please refer to table 2 in SQ20-000025)	10/12/2020	
381	SQ20-001912	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Update to SQ20-000024 relating to approved child care	Referring to SQ20-000024, please update table 1 and table 2 with the latest data and estimates over the forward estimates period.	10/12/2020	
382	SQ20-001918	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Update Child Care system - safety net, state assistance, universal access (SQ17-000903)	Please update SQ18-000829 for the forward estimates period.	10/12/2020	
383	SQ20-001919	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Child Care Safety Net	How many families and children accessed the child care safety net of 24 hours per fortnight in 2019-20? How does that compare to 2018-19? How many of these children are accessing six hour day sessions?	10/12/2020	
384	SQ20-001920	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Funding levels for children at risk (update to SQ19-000193)	Please update SQ19-000193 for the forward estimates period.	10/12/2020	
385	SQ20-001922	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Additional Child Care Subsidy	How many families accessed the Additional Child Care Subsidy in 2019-20? How many are expected to access the ACCS in 2020-21?	10/12/2020	
386	SQ20-001923	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Suspension of the activity test	How many families have qualified for the 'suspension' of the activity test since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic? How many families are expected to qualify for the suspension in 2020-21?	10/12/2020	
387	SQ20-001928	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Child Care Subsidy by Federal Electorate	Please provide the breakdown of families receiving the Child Care Subsidy by Federal Electorate (similar to the table provided in response to SQ17-001290).	10/12/2020	
388	SQ20-001929	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	Families using child care by activity test step (update SQ18-000833)	Please update SQ18-000833	10/12/2020	
389	SQ20-001932	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Early Childhood and Child Care	National Quality Standards - Waivers	How many services have waivers against one or more of the national quality standards? Please provide by provider type/quality standard/state and territory.	10/12/2020	
390	SQ20-001936	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Non-government schools COVID-19 funding offer	1. Has a COVID case been detected at any independent school that took up the government's offer? 2. How many schools have there been where an infection or outbreak has occurred? 3. How many of these schools have been public, independent and Catholic schools? 4. How many students and teachers have contracted COVID in the school environment?	10/12/2020	
391	SQ20-001937	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education programs	1. Could you please provide details of all current educational programs directed specifically to Indigenous girls and the funding allocated to them? 2. What is the total number of recipients for each of those programs? 3. What is the dollar value per capita of funding for educational programs specifically for Indigenous girls? 4. How many FTEs are employed by educational programs directed specifically to Indigenous girls? 5. Could you please provide details of all current educational programs directed specifically to Indigenous boys and the funding allocated to them? 6. What is the total number of recipients for each of those programs? 7. What is the dollar value per capita of funding for educational programs specifically for Indigenous boys? 8. How many FTEs are employed by educational programs directed specifically to Indigenous boys?	10/12/2020	
392	SQ20-001938	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	National Evidence Institute	1. Will there be additional sources of funding for the National Evidence Institute from outside of what has already been announced by Commonwealth or state/territory governments? 2. Is the Evidence Institute going to be up and running this year as previously indicated? a. Please provide an update on progress. b. What is the timeline for the Institute opening? c. When is the Institute scheduled to be fully staffed and delivering services? 3. Who has been appointed to the Board of the Institute? 4. What will be the average staffing level and staffing profiles for the Institute? 5. How much will Dr Donovan receive in total remuneration in her role as Chair? a. What about the other Board members? 6. Has the Minister discussed with the Department any ongoing funding arrangements for the Institute? 7. The Department has indicated at previous estimates hearings that the Institute could deliver fee-for-service type activities - is this still the case? How would this work? What type of fee for services activities are planned?	10/12/2020	
393	SQ20-001939	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	National Schools Reform and Quality Outcomes Programs	1. Page 42 of the Portfolio Budget Statement shows a significant movement of administered funds between years under the National Schools Reform outcome - could you explain what has happened there and why? 2. Why has the funding profile for National Schools Reform changed so much between the 2019 and 2020 Budgets? 2. Funding for Quality Outcomes has dropped significantly between the 2019 and 2020 Budgets from \$159m over the forwards to \$138m over the forwards - why is that? 3. Can you provide a list of programs funded under the National Schools Reform budget measure since 2017-18? 4. Can you provide a list of programs funded under the Quality Outcomes budget measure since 2013-14?	10/12/2020	
394	SQ20-001940	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Respect Matters	1. When was the decision made to move funds out of the Respect Matters program? 2. On what date was the decision made to move funds back into the Respect Matters program? 3. Whose decision was it to move the funds out? 4. On what basis was this decision made? 5. Whose decision was it to move the funds back? 6. On what basis was this decision made?	10/12/2020	
395	SQ20-001941	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Review of National Schools Architecture	1. The first recommendation of the Review of National Schools Architecture was to establish a new body a new 'Australian Curriculum and Teaching Services' to replace the functions of ACARA and AITSL. Has the government reached a position on these recommendations? a. What is the 'staged approach' being adopted by Ministers? b. When will further information be provided? 2. What will be the average staffing level of this new organisation? 3. How will the functions of this new body differ to those under ACARA and AITSL? 4. How does the development of the National Evidence Institute fit within the framework? 5. What consultation was done with the sector prior to the Review? 6. What consultation has been done since Education Council first considered the Review? a. Would you please be able to provide a timeline detailing the consultation with stakeholders and relevant agencies, as well as consideration by the Minister and Education Council?	10/12/2020	
396	SQ20-001942	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Schools	Capital Funding	1. Can you tell me how much funding was allocated through the Capital Grants Scheme in the 2019/20 financial year? a. How does that compare to the amount of funding spent in the previous two financial years? 2. How much funding has been allocated in total from the grants scheme so far? 3. Which schools were successful in the most recent round of grants? 4. Can you provide on notice a list of all projects that were successful, including the school name, state, electorate, project description, the amount of funding approved, and the grant round? 5. Which of the schools that received funding under the Capital Grants Scheme had previously received grants under Commonwealth Government capital funding programs? 6. How many schools applied but did not receive funding under each round of the Capital Grants Scheme a. How many of these schools had eligible applications?	10/12/2020	

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397	SQ20-001943	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP)	<p>1. The Higher Education Reform Measure in the July Economic and Fiscal Update states that the Government is "consolidating funding from existing programs to establish the Indigenous, Regional and Low SES Attainment Fund" could you confirm which existing programs funding is being consolidated from?</p> <p>a. How much funding was budgeted over the forward estimates under each of the existing programs in the 2019 Budget?</p> <p>b. How much funding has been redirected from each of these programs into the IRLSAF?</p> <p>2. Could you please provide a breakdown of how funding will be allocated over the forward estimates between the HEPPP, the National Priorities Pool Program, the Regional Partnerships Project Pool Program, the Regional Loading Program and the Enabling Loading Program?</p> <p>3. If you compare funding for HEPPP over the forward estimates between the 2019 and 2020 Budgets, there has been a drop in funding of \$161.9 million - why is this?</p> <p>4. The figures for HEPPP in the 2020 Portfolio Budget Statement vary from the figures for calendar year HEPPP funding in the Draft Other Grants Guidelines - funding provided in the grants guidelines is significantly lower (around \$10 million less per year) - why is this?</p> <p>a. Could you confirm what the correct funding amount for HEPPP is by both calendar year and financial year?</p> <p>5. The Government has opened up equity grants to private providers for the first time - how many providers will become eligible for grant funding under the change?</p> <p>6. How will grant funding be allocated to private providers? What proportion of grant funding will go to private providers?</p> <p>7. The Explanatory Memorandum of the JRG legislation states that Item 6 -which opens up grant funding to private providers - is a "transitional arrangement", but the section is not actually limited to just these purposes and is not a transitional provision - under the legislation, will the Minister have ongoing discretion to provide equity grants to entities that aren't Table A providers?</p>	10/12/2020
398	SQ20-001944	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	University-Industry Grants	<p>1. The Government has announced a number of policies related to universities' relationships with industry. Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Priorities and Industry Linkage Fund • \$48.8 million to fund research between regional universities, industry and other higher education partners • The \$41.6 million Strategic University Reform Fund to bring together universities and local industry • 5 new ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hubs • 5 new ARC training centres to "foster strategic partnerships between university based researchers and industry organisations" <p>• And the Department's scoping study into the commercialisation of research Could you please provide a list of all budget measures that relate to these university-industry links?</p> <p>2. Are all these commitments coordinated by the same area in the Department?</p> <p>3. What are the different purposes that these programs serve?</p> <p>4. For each of the three funds, how will funding be distributed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there guidelines available? • Has any funding been allocated yet, under any of the three funds? <p>5. Who will be the decision-maker for the funding?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the decision-maker be assisted in making their decisions, will it be departmental advice? An advisory group? Some other independent body? <p>6. How will the decision making process ensure grants go to projects based on merit, and not whether they are in a marginal or target Liberal seat?</p> <p>7. Will the Department be having regard to the sports rorts scandal to ensure that is not repeated?</p> <p>8. What assurance can you give that this will not be another sports rorts scandal - and that projects will be funded based on their merit?</p>	10/12/2020
399	SQ20-001945	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Ministerial Discretion	<p>1. Under the new higher education legislation and funding arrangements, which pools of higher education funding are subject to ministerial discretion?</p> <p>2. Will the 50,000 new short course places and the 12,000 new CSP places be determined through funding agreements where the Minister is the decision maker?</p> <p>3. What proportion of Commonwealth higher education funding is now subject to Ministerial discretion?</p> <p>4. What proportion of Commonwealth higher education funding was subject to Ministerial discretion prior to the introduction of performance funding in 2017?</p>	10/12/2020
400	SQ20-001946	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Places for non-Table A providers	<p>1. This year, the Government entered into funding agreements providing short course student places with higher education providers that are not listed as public universities in HESA (i.e. Table A providers).</p> <p>a. How many funding agreements were entered into with private providers?</p> <p>b. How many of these providers will be continued to be given places in 2021?</p> <p>2. What sorts of student places will they be able to obtain? Will they be given places other than short course places, so that students can continue as Commonwealth Supported students?</p> <p>3. Why is the government restricting funding to Australia's public universities through funding caps at the same time as it is extending funding to non-university providers?</p> <p>4. The Government recently reduced the FEE HELP loan fee to make it cheaper for full fee paying students - mostly studying at private providers - to study. Will this benefit private education providers?</p>	10/12/2020
401	SQ20-001947	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Higher Education Superannuation Program (HESP)	Why has funding for Program 2.2, the Higher Education Superannuation Program, fallen by around \$100 million a year since the 2019 Budget?	10/12/2020
402	SQ20-001949	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job Ready Graduates - Impact on Women	<p>1. Did you analyse the distributional impacts of the Job Ready Graduate reforms by gender?</p> <p>a. If yes - what did they show?</p> <p>b. If no - why not?</p> <p>2. When asked last week whether the Office for Women was considering the gender impacts of government policies, the Minister for Women told the Finance and Public Administration Estimates Committee that she "would expect all departments to be considering the impacts of policy development on the whole population in the process of developing policy."</p> <p>a. Did the Office for Women ask the Department for any analysis of the impact of the changes on women?</p> <p>3. Please provide the most recent enrolment data available per funding cluster, broken down by gender.</p> <p>4. What is the current amount of outstanding HECS HELP debt, broken down by gender?</p> <p>5. Is there a difference in repayment pattern of HELP debts? Do women typically take longer to repay their HELP debts than men?</p> <p>6. What is the average time that it takes a person to repay their HECS HELP debt, broken down by gender and degree type?</p>	10/12/2020
403	SQ20-001951	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job Ready Graduates Package	<p>1. The Budget measure 'Jobmaker Plan - higher education - additional support for students and education providers' included modifications to the Job Ready Graduates package - including two guarantees to CGS funding - how will these work?</p> <p>2. Can you explain how the guarantees add \$2 billion to the cost of the package over 10 years?</p> <p>3. The original measure was said to be budget neutral - what is the net impact of the Job Ready Graduate reforms on the Budget now?</p> <p>4. What is the cost of the Government's commitment in the Higher Education Relief Package to guarantee universities' CGS funding at 2020 levels?</p> <p>5. Could you please provide a breakdown of budgeted expenses under Program 2.1 - Commonwealth Grants Scheme each year over the medium term?</p> <p>6. What is driving increases in expenditure under the Higher Education Loan Program has increased each year over the forward estimates between the 2019 and 2020 Budgets - why is that?</p> <p>a. Could you please provide a breakdown of budgeted expenditure under program 2.4 (HELP) over the medium term?</p>	10/12/2020
404	SQ20-001954	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Short Courses	<p>1. How many short course places were allocated to higher education providers under the Government's April short course announcement?</p> <p>a. How many of these places were taken up by students?</p> <p>2. Could you please provide a breakdown of places, by state and territory, provider, and course type?</p> <p>3. For all the short course places allocated:</p> <p>a. What proportion went to providers that are also VET providers?</p> <p>b. What proportion went to providers that are not listed as public universities in HESA (i.e. not listed as Table A providers)?</p> <p>4. How many providers entered into funding agreements with the government to provide short course student places?</p> <p>a. How many of the providers who offered short courses were not Table A providers?</p> <p>b. Was any funding in addition to the initial \$7.1 million allocated to private providers to deliver short course places?</p> <p>c. How many places were delivered through the \$7.1 million?</p>	10/12/2020

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405	SQ20-001955	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Student Places and Indexation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Government has announced that CGS funding will be indexed by CPI - is the CPI rate forecast to be higher or lower than the previous population-based measure over the forward estimates? The initial announcement of the Job Ready Graduates package on 19 June promised 39,000 new places by 2023 and 100,000 over ten years. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Could you please provide a breakdown of how many new places will be created each calendar year (to 2023 and over 10 years)? Could you please explain how these places will be allocated? The Minister's Press Club speech and the "better university funding arrangements" fact sheet available on the DESE website say "university places will grow by 3.5% per year", but the Job Ready Graduates Technical Note (p.4) says the growth rate will only hit 3.5% in 2024 - it will only be 1.3% in 2021. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Which is true? What happens after 2024? Does the growth rate continue at 3.5% each year for regional universities? What will happen if there is insufficient demand at regional universities to meet a 3.5% growth rate in student places? Will the funding return to the Budget? Can the places be reallocated? Universities will receive growth of 3.5%, 2.5% or 1% depending on their location - what will the average growth rate be across all universities for each year through to 2025? What is happening to performance funding? The JRG technical note steps out a process for assessing institutional impacts of the JRG at figure 1 - where does performance funding fit in? The Budget announced \$298 million over four years to fund an additional 12,000 student places in 2021 in national priority areas. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Could you explain how a "student place" is defined in this announcement? Are the 12,000 places being funded for a number of years? If so, how many years on average? How many degrees are estimated to be completed by these places? How has the \$298 million cost been calculated? Could you provide a breakdown of how the funding is allocated across calendar years and many places will be available each calendar year? What is the mechanism for allocating the 12,000 places? The announcement materials and media reporting say 	10/12/2020
406	SQ20-001957	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Government has provided \$1 billion in 2020-21 to "safeguard Australia's research sector against the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Is this funding being distributed in the 2020 calendar year, the 2021 calendar year, or both? Will the additional \$1 billion be distributed through the standard Research Support Program formula or targeted at the universities that have faced the largest COVID-19 related losses? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If standard formula - what is the rationale for using this method? In the research package budget measure, why is there a cut of \$88.8 million in 2022-23? This announcement came more than six months after Australia closed its border to international students, precipitating a crisis in research - how many jobs were lost before the Government made this announcement? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is the department monitoring job losses in the higher education sector during the COVID crisis? 	10/12/2020
407	SQ20-001961	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Tertiary Access Payment (TAP)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many Commonwealth programs are designed to provide financial assistance to rural and regional students and improve their access to and success in higher education? Why was the decision made to add a fourth payment administered by a different department, rather than increasing payments already available? What is the relationship between the four payments? How many can you receive at the same time? Do students have to apply for them each separately? What actions have you taken to make sure disadvantaged students from rural and regional areas are aware of the different programs and how to apply for them all? How do you know this messy array of programs isn't just supporting kids from families "in the know"? 	10/12/2020
408	SQ20-001963	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	The new Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI) system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is it correct that DESE is implementing an entire new information system for higher education providers beginning in 2021? What will be the final cost of this system and how much has been spent to date? Can you explain to me what steps were taken to ensure that the JRG changes did not endanger the rollout of this significant investment? What resources were provided to support the system changes required to implement Senator Hanson's changes to higher education funding arrangements? Will the system be ready to administer the HECS-HELP discount on 1 January 2021? Will the system be ready to administer the Student Learning Entitlement from 1 January 2022. 	10/12/2020
409	SQ20-001965	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Up-Front Fee Discounts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the impact on the Budget of the Government's deal with One Nation to reinstate the 10 per cent discount for students who pay their fees upfront? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Could you please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates? 	10/12/2020
410	SQ20-001985	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Departmental Funding for Implementation of Skills Package	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Department is being provided with \$76 million to help with resourcing to support the implementation of the Skills Reform Package, where will that funding go? Has the Department engaged additional staff in anticipation of the package's implementation? How many have been hired? How many have been permanent, part-time or casual? Which of the skills reform package measures will require additional resourcing? What additional resources do you foresee the Department requiring to implement the package? Have any contracts/tenders been put out to acquire these? 	10/12/2020
411	SQ20-001987	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Apprentice and Trainee Wage Subsidies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Of the employers receiving support, how many are small businesses and how many medium businesses? What proportion were Group Training Organisations? During the first phase of the scheme, were any subsidies provided to employers with more than 19 full time employees? Could you provide a breakdown of recipients by apprenticeship and trainee type? Of employer recipients, what proportion are also recipients of the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive Program? How many apprenticeships and trainees commenced between July and October this year? 	10/12/2020
412	SQ20-001989	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Commonwealth Scholarships Program for Young Australians	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many eligible applicants in total applied for the Program's \$5000 scholarship? How many successful applicants in total met (at least) one of the priority criteria's (a-d)? How many successful applicants in each of the 10 locations met the (a-d) criteria for priority? Noting the 10 Training Hub area criteria for selection, how many scholarship recipients met criteria: a), b) c) or d) The Brotherhood of St Lawrence identifies 20 areas of high youth unemployment, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> what assistance is provided to young unemployed people in areas of high youth unemployment that are not currently serviced by one of the 10 Training Hub? Given that 8 training hubs are still to be finalised, what priority or assistance was given to young unemployed people from areas of high-youth unemployment who currently do not have access to their (yet to be finalised) Training Hub? 	10/12/2020
413	SQ20-001992	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	National Agreement on Skills and Workforce Development (NASWD) Funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Budget Paper 3 shows that funding for the National Agreement on Skills and Workforce Development has decreased by around \$40 million over the forward estimates, compared with funding in the 2019-20 Budget- why is this? 	10/12/2020
414	SQ20-001994	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Skills and Training	Skilling Australians Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What impact has COVID had on receipts through the Skilling Australian Fund levy? Will this have a flow on effect to training funding through the Skilling Australians Fund? 	10/12/2020
415	SQ20-001995	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Update to annual figures of Commonwealth funding - undergraduate and postgraduate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide an update of the table on university revenue per student place which was provided in response to Senate Estimates question SQ18 000299 from the 2017-18 Additional estimates. Please include all available final figures and estimates for the remaining years up to 2023. 	10/12/2020
416	SQ20-001998	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Detailed expenditure for each higher education program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide an update to the tables provided in response to Senate Estimates question SQ18 000103 from the 2017-18 Additional estimates. The tables should detail the expenditure that occurred under each higher education program for each of the calendar years 2013 to 2020 and each of the financial years 2012-13 to 2020-21. Expenditure for HELP programs should be the amount lent to students which was paid to universities (not just the estimated expense of loans to the Commonwealth). In this request "higher education program" is intended to cover both teaching and research programs (including the ARC), irrespective of whether paid under the Higher Education Support Act 2003 or an annual appropriation. 	10/12/2020
417	SQ20-002004	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Job ready Graduates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When will CGS guidelines be signed by the Minister, and made public, confirming the grant amounts for each university 2021 to 2024? Have all universities agreed with the amount they will receive in each of the years 2021 - 2024 ? When will these figures be made public in the CGS guidelines? Can the Department table the intended annual HESA payment figures for 2021 - 2024 for the main higher education programs (annual figures not budget financial year figures)? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Commonwealth Grant Scheme Each scheme funded through the Other Grants part of HESA (HEPPP, the proposed NPILF and IRLSAF, and the research block grants). How will universities determine which social work and psychology students pay the lower student contribution and which continue to pay the new high rate of \$4,500 on annual basis? 	10/12/2020
418	SQ20-002005	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Australian HELP balances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Given the Government is so concerned about the small number of people (139) with large HECS and HELP balances, could the department please provide an estimate for the total number of people who have used HECS or HELP loan since the system began in 1989? 	10/12/2020

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419	SQ20-002006	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Community Services Degrees	<p>The community services sector is one of the fastest growing sectors in our economy. There are a range of vocational degrees that are relevant to this growing workforce. In addition to Bachelor of Social Work and Bachelor of Psychology They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Community Services • Bachelor of Community Welfare • Bachelor of Social Welfare • Bachelor of Human Services • Bachelor of Child and Family Studies • Bachelor of Social Science • Bachelor of Youth Work • Bachelor of Counselling • Bachelor of Community Development • Bachelor of Disability <p>While the Government has made some concessions that will mean the Social Work degree will now not attract the original higher fees, the increases in these other qualifications remains and will undoubtedly discourage people from undertaking those degrees, with a likely outcome of continuing skills shortages across the country – particularly in regional areas; and much longer waiting lists for services, including what are often lifesaving mental health services.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the minister provide details of modelling around an expected reduction in people completing these vocational humanities degrees? 2. Can the minister provide modelling on current and future skills shortages, with specific reference to regional areas in the provision of mental health services, and other services delivered by graduates of these vocational humanities degrees? 3. Can the minister confirm that a new graduate of these vocational humanities degrees can expect to earn from around \$60,000 - \$64,000p.a. under the relevant Awards? *Footnote 1 https://au.indeed.com/New-Graduate-Social-Worker-jobs 4. Can the minister provide modelling on the time taken by students of these vocational humanities degrees to 	10/12/2020
420	SQ20-002007	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	TEQSA's work on sexual harassment	<p>Following the Australian Human Rights Commission's Change the Course report in August 2017, TEQSA has been proactive in promoting the Threshold Standards as a mechanism for addressing sexual violence within higher education environments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you please outline the objectives of TEQSA's work on sexual harassment in the higher education sector? 	10/12/2020
421	SQ20-002008	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Good Practice Note: Preventing and responding to sexual assault and sexual harassment in the Australian higher education sector	<p>In July 2020, TEQSA published its Good Practice Note: Preventing and responding to sexual assault and sexual harassment in the Australian higher education sector, featuring practical advice for higher education providers to support improvements in their policies, procedures and practices.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Good Practice Note drew on 19 Good Practice Examples at a number of higher education providers but did not include any information around methodology. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How were these Good Practice Examples selected? b. Did TEQSA undertake any objective assessment of material self-reported to them by higher education providers? 2. Within TEQSA, what compliance capacity is directed towards tracking and assessing the implementation of good practice across the university sector? 3. How is TEQSA proposing to follow up the Good Practice Note? <p>Footnote 2 - Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA), Good Practice Note: Preventing and responding to sexual assault and sexual harassment in the Australian higher education sector, 9 July 2020, accessed at https://www.teqsa.gov.au/latest-news/publications/good-practice-note-preventing-and-responding-sexual-assault-and-sexual</p>	10/12/2020
422	SQ20-002009	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	complaints received in relation to sexual assault or sexual harassment	<p>In its January 2019 Report to the Minister for Education: Higher education sector response to the issue of sexual assault and sexual harassment: An overview of Australian higher education provider responses to the issue of sexual assault and sexual harassment. TEQSA noted that one of its objectives was to "receive and respond to complaints about providers' responses to incidents of sexual assault and sexual harassment."</p> <p>In response to questions on notice from the 2019-2020 Additional Estimates, TEQSA advised that it had received 18 complaints relating to sexual assault or sexual harassment, with 16 being made against 10 universities and two against non-university providers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many complaints has TEQSA now received in relation to sexual assault or sexual harassment? 2. Have these complaints been finalised? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the average time taken to finalise complaints of this nature? b) What information have the complainants received? 3. Have any of these complaints been considered during provider risk assessments? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, how many complaints have been considered as part of risk assessments? <p>Footnote 3 - Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA), Report to the Minister for Education: Higher education sector response to the issue of sexual assault and sexual harassment: An overview of Australian higher education provider responses to the issue of sexual assault and sexual harassment, 25 January 2019, accessed at https://www.teqsa.gov.au/latest-news/publications/report-minister-education-higher-education-sector-response-issue-sexual</p> <p>Footnote 4 - <i>ibid</i>, p.12.</p>	10/12/2020
423	SQ20-002010	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	Agency: Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency	Australian National Audit Office's report	<p>In April 2020 the Australian National Audit Office's report, Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency's Regulation of Higher Education, noted that between January 2018 and October 2019, TEQSA received 474 complaints that were categorised as being related to a provider. The ANAO reviewed complaints for the 10 providers that received the highest number of complaints during this period - a total of 96 complaints - but found that none of the risk assessments for those providers included an analysis of, or commentary regarding, these complaints.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many complaints has TEQSA received since October 2019? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have any of these complaints been considered as part of provider risk assessments? 2. Of the complaints received between January 2018 and October 2020, how many involve matters of sexual assault and harassment? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) At which universities? <p>Footnote 5 - Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), Tertiary Education Quality and Standard's Agency Regulation of Higher Education, Auditor-General Report No.33 2019-20, 16 April 2020, accessed at https://www.anao.gov.au/sites/default/files/Auditor-General_Report_2019-2020_33.pdf</p>	10/12/2020
424	SQ20-002011	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	Agency: Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership	Implementation of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers	<p>Could you please provide an update on the implementation of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have all targets been met in implementing the reform? 	10/12/2020
425	SQ20-002012	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Jobactive Participants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide a profile of Stream A job seekers that are currently attached to Jobactive providers' caseload (not in OES) including proportion: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. long-term unemployed b. very long-term unemployed c. Have year 10 education or less d. Have no education e. Have poor literacy f. Are homeless or at risk of homelessness g. Have an offending history including a term of imprisonment h. Have drug or alcohol dependence i. Are refugees j. Have mental health issues k. Have a disability l. Are Indigenous m. Are from CALD backgrounds n. Are mature aged o. Are youth 	10/12/2020
426	SQ20-002013	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020	DESE - Employment	Online Employment Services	<p>Online Employment Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total number of job seekers currently in the Jobactive program? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many of those participants are in the Online Employment Service system? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please break down by stream. b. How many of those participants are engaged with a Jobactive provider? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please break down by stream. 2. What additional functionality will Online Employment Services have when development is complete and when do you expect that to be delivered? 3. What does "most job ready" job seekers mean? 4. How does the current streaming process assess if a job seeker has adequate job search skills to look for work including ability to prepare an effective resume, cover letter, respond to key selection criteria or to conduct themselves in an interview? 5. How are the scoring thresholds for determining Stream eligibility in jobactive determined? 6. Have the scoring thresholds for Stream eligibility in jobactive been adjusted during the current contract period? 7. It is correct that the weighting system underpinning the JSCI for some of the factors such as cultural background, age etc is based on actual placement rates? and if so: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has there been any adjustment to the JSCI scoring to reflect the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent change to risk of long term unemployment - both generally and for particular cohorts such as youth, mature aged, and women? 8. Under jobactive job seekers would have been able to receive additional assistance via the Employment Fund - is that investment available to job seekers in Online Employment Services? If so can the Department outline what expenditure has occurred to date and what is the nature of the supports provided? 9. As job seekers in Online Employment Services are still eligible to participate in complementary programs such as NEIS and Career Transition Assistance, please indicate how many job seekers have been referred to complementary programs? 	10/12/2020

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427	SQ20-002014	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Digital Servicing	1. When was the digital servicing centre established? 2. How many staff members does the service centre employ? 3. Are all the staff at the digital servicing centre Australian Public Service staff? a. If no, what is the proportion of APS staff to contractor or labour hire? 4. How many calls has the digital service centre received since its commencement? a. If possible, please provide a break down of the nature of those calls. I.e. complaint, compliment, assistance, compliance related, etc.	10/12/2020
428	SQ20-002015	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		DESE - Higher Education Research and International	Higher Education Relief Package	1. Please provide a list of every higher education provider that has obtained a financial benefit from the government's CGS and HELP payment guarantees (first announced in the Minister's joint press release with Minister Cash of 12 April 2020). How much benefit did each provider obtain under each program? Please separately identify for each provider: a. The program in respect of which the benefit was given - i.e. CGS and the various HELP programs (HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP, etc)? b. The calendar year in respect of which the benefit was given - i.e. separate benefits that occurred in respect of higher education provision in the 2019 year from those in respect of higher education provision in the 2020 year.	10/12/2020
429	SQ20-002016	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		DESE - Higher Education Research and International	COVID-19 Response package	1. For the measure 'COVID-19 Response package - higher education' (see BP2, pages 225 & 226), please provide the total cost by calendar year and financial year for each of the separate elements listed in the dot points of the measure statement.	10/12/2020
430	SQ20-002017	Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		DESE - Cross Portfolio	Detail on components of measures included in the 2020 Budget and July Economic and Fiscal Update	Please complete the table below providing detail on components of measures included in the 2020 Budget and July Economic and Fiscal Update. (see attached)	10/12/2020
431	SQ20-001817	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Mutual obligation suspension and non-payment penalty rates	1. Please provide data comparing mutual obligation suspension and non-payment penalty rates for the two-year period up to April 2020 for: a. Indigenous people in remote communities compared with the non-indigenous population, nation-wide, by payment type; region; age; gender; and whether a CDC Program participant. b. People in remote communities assessed as having a partial capacity for work, by age; gender; payment type. 2. Please provide a breakdown of the people who were suspended from their income support payment since the re-introduction of mutual obligations by postcode.	10/12/2020
432	SQ20-001818	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Caseload Data	Can you please provide the latest caseload data for jobactive, DES, parentsnext, work for the dole and EST? Please provide this broken down by stream, demographic data, payment, and geographic region.	10/12/2020
433	SQ20-001819	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Job seeker participation	How many job seekers do you expect will be participating in jobactive, Online Employment Services, and New Employment Services Trial for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022?	10/12/2020
434	SQ20-001820	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Work for the Dole participants	How many job seekers do you expect will be participating in Work for the Dole for the years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022?	10/12/2020
435	SQ20-001821	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Job seekers with part earnings	How many job seekers with part earnings do you expect will be participating in jobactive for the years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022?	10/12/2020
436	SQ20-001822	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	jobactive funding	What ratio of jobactive funding for administration fees vs outcome fees is projected?	10/12/2020
437	SQ20-001823	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Funding allocation - Work for the Dole	What funding allocation for work for the dole is projected?	10/12/2020
438	SQ20-001825	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Reinstatement of mutual obligations	1. From the reinstatement of mutual obligations on 28 September to the latest available data, please provide an update of the detailed compliance statistics provided at pre-COVID Estimates hearings, including: a) Number of payment suspensions broken down by program and demographic group b) Number of people whose payments were suspended, broken down by program and demographic group (as per previously provided tables), and number of suspensions applied to each person c) Number of payment suspensions broken down by program, and: - reason for suspension - suspensions lifted and not lifted - time taken to lift suspensions - demerits were applied/not applied - where not applied, the reason (e.g. reasonable excuse, provider error) d) Demerit points applied by program and demographic group and reason for demerits e) Number of people with demerits, broken down by program and demographic group (as per previously provided tables), and number of demerits applied to each person.	10/12/2020
439	SQ20-001826	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Loss of contact - First Nations peoples	Please provide loss of contact after suspension for First Nations peoples in remote communities (i.e., data showing numbers of people not re-engaging after suspension) compared with the non-Indigenous population, nation-wide.	10/12/2020
440	SQ20-001827	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Referrals to Services Australia	How many people have been referred to Services Australia for turning down a job offer since 4 August 2020 and how many of these have been found to have a valid reason?	10/12/2020
441	SQ20-001829	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Complaints - Employment Service Providers	What is the number of complaints submitted about employment service providers and jobactive, ParentsNext and Disability Employment Services transfer requests broken down by site or provider?	10/12/2020
442	SQ20-001832	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Annual Activity Requirements	If the Annual Activity Requirements commenced in July 2020 while mutual obligations were suspended and the participant did not begin AAR activities until October 2020, will the AAR period conclude in December 2020 or March 2021?	10/12/2020
443	SQ20-001833	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	ParentsNext - extension on contracts	1. What process did the Department follow to award the extension of ParentsNext contracts? 2. On what basis did the Minister decide to extend the ParentsNext contracts?	10/12/2020
444	SQ20-001835	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Tailored Mutual Obligations	1. How is the Department monitoring the fact that providers have been asked to tailor all mutual obligation requirements? For example, are there any guidelines provided to providers around how to approach this? 2. How many people have had their job search requirements tailored? 3. How many people aged over 55 years old have had their mutual obligations tailored?	10/12/2020
445	SQ20-001836	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Career Transition Assistance - job placements	Out of the 1,601 people who commenced the CTA program since March, only 105 have resulted in job placements. What are you doing to increase the number of participants who achieve job placements as a result of the program?	10/12/2020
446	SQ20-001837	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Career Transition Assistance - evaluation	When is the evaluation of CTA due to be completed and who is undertaking the evaluation?	10/12/2020
447	SQ20-001838	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Job Fairs	1. What is the cost of running a (physical) job fair and are exhibitors paid a fee to participate? 2. On average, how many jobs are on offer and being promoted to JobSeekers from the exhibitors who participate? 3. How many jobs are filled by JobSeekers attending a job fair? 4. If the department is not collecting this information, on what basis have decisions been made to invest funds in these activities?	10/12/2020
448	SQ20-001839	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	JobMaker hiring credit	What is the value of outcome payments expected to be paid to employment services providers in connection with FY21 job placements eligible for the JobMaker hiring credit scheme?	10/12/2020
449	SQ20-001842	Written	Rachel Siewert	5/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Relocation Assistance program	Does the \$17.5 million increase to the Relocation Assistance program include funding for people who take up short term agricultural work to relocate back to their place of origin? If yes, how much of the budgeted figure is allocated for this purpose?	10/12/2020
450	SQ20-001893	Written	Rachel Siewert	6/11/2020		DESE - Employment	48-hour grace period being applied to Job Seekers	Can you confirm if the 48 day grace period being applied to Job Seekers before they are cut off payment includes weekends?	10/12/2020
451	SQ20-002020	Written	Rachel Siewert	11/11/2020		DESE - Employment	Centrelink approved organisation	What should people over 55 years old be doing if they can't access a Centrelink approved organisation?	10/12/2020
452	SQ20-002169	Written	Rachel Siewert	13/11/2020		DESE - Skills and Training	New training opportunities	Budget Paper 2 makes reference to "\$40.0 million over two years 3E) to provide new training opportunities in infection prevention and control...". To which states and territories, or Commonwealth agencies, have these funds been allocated, and have actually been provided to date? Please provide more detail of the 'training opportunities' broken down by: a. how many positions are funded for training? b. what is the duration of the training? c. what is the extent and nature of the training d. are these for permanent positions, or for training for surge capacity? e. how much actual training has commenced to date? f. please give details of which states and territories have agreed to provide, and have actually provided, 'matching funding'?	10/12/2020
453		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	81	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	VET students studying short courses	Senator PRATT: The Prime Minister and ministers have referred to the 4.2 million students studying VET qualifications in Australia. We have heard that more than one-third of those students were actually in courses that took eight hours or less. That's 1½ million students. Has that figure changed given COVID? Mr Walker: From memory, that was a question without notice from the last hearing I attended. We haven't provided that number for the 2019 data. I would be surprised—obviously we can provide it again on notice—if it's changed much. The overall counts for those types of enrolments hasn't changed much from 2019 to 2018.	10/12/2020
454		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	81	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	VET students studying short courses	Senator PRATT: How many VET students are studying courses that take 50 hours or less or have studied such courses among that 4.2 million? Mr Walker: I don't have that data instantly available. We can provide that to you on notice. Just to be clear, we don't measure their duration. The hours are nominal and they are assigned to each individual unit, of course. So whether it actually takes 50 hours of training or not can depend on a whole range of things.	10/12/2020

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455		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	81	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Qualification levels	Mr Walker: Typically the number of hours associated with a qualification correlates to the level. So for a certificate I, that could be 200 hours of training. For a diploma, it could range over 1,000 to 2,000 hours. Senator PRATT: Could you break down the number of students in each of those levels for us for the most recent data year that you have? How many registered training organisations cater exclusively for short courses in the market? Mr Walker: I would have to put that on notice as well. Senator PRATT: Are there many? Mr Walker: When you say short courses, you are referring to that— Senator PRATT: It could be a forklift licence. Very much the short courses as opposed to more substantive qualifications. What is your assessment of their role in the marketplace in terms of how they compare to TAFE? Mr Walker: In terms of the short courses, there are types of short courses. There are some that are nationally recognised, like training package skill sets and are VET courses. But the great majority of students in those subjects aren't associated with a skill set for an accredited course. There are well over 2% million students. A lot of those are being delivered by RTOs rather than TAFE institutes. We can get you that count.	10/12/2020
456		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	82	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Students enrolled in qualifications by level in 2019	Senator PRATT: How do I research or ask for information about how many private organisations only offer short courses and how many students they have? Mr Walker: If that goes on notice, I can answer that question. Senator PRATT: Have I asked it in the correct way? Mr Walker: As long as we can interpret that as being those short courses that aren't associated with accredited courses and training packages. So it is that large group of people doing subject only. That will be fine.	10/12/2020
457		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	82	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Qualifications delivered by training provider	Mr Walker: There were 650,000. Around 66,000 were at universities. Around 105,000 were in schools. Around 70,000 were at community education providers. Around 60,000 were at enterprise providers. About 1.1 million were at private training providers. Senator PRATT: Is it possible to get a list of those qualifications that are offered, both package and accredited qualifications? Mr Walker: Do you want that— Senator PRATT: They must be on a website. Mr Walker: broken down by provider? Senator PRATT: Yes. Only if it's not too complicated to do. I can assume they're spread out across those providers. Or are public, private and school providers all very likely to do different things? Mr Walker: Well, there will be some commonality and there will be some differences. There are also a lot of qualifications, so it's quite a long table. But we can provide it for you.	10/12/2020
458		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	83	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Enrolments in training packages	Senator PRATT: What are the most popular training packages qualifications by number of enrolments? Mr Walker: That data should be in our publication, if you can bear with me. I will have to do that for you. If you can bear with me now, are you talking government funded again or just all qualifications? Senator PRATT: No. General. I'm interested in what type of provider they are by popularity. That was going to be my next question. Mr Walker: I think to save time, Senator— Senator PRATT: I can put that on notice to you. Mr Walker: put that on notice as well. Perhaps to be clear, for the questions on notice, you're looking for the top 10, say, enrolments in training packages by provider type? Senator PRATT: Yes.	10/12/2020
459		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	83	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Number of students in training	Senator PRATT: In terms of how many people are in substantive training, it's certainly not 4.2 million. I want to ask you what the substantive level of qualification is. You might be looking for something that gives you a trade certificate or a community services certificate for doing personal care or something like that. How many students are doing those kinds of courses? Do I just need to wait for the data that you're able to send us on notice? Mr Walker: It's probably best to specify that data request now because it will be subtly different from some of the other data that you've requested. I think you're asking for the most popular trade qualifications. Senator PRATT: Yes. That's right. Mr Walker: And the most popular community services and health qualifications. Is that right? Senator PRATT: That's right. And how many students are in them? Mr Walker: Yes. Senator PRATT: And then tell us how many students by provider. I'm assuming that most of them will be at TAFE, but a smaller number of private providers will do some of that work as well.	10/12/2020
460		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	87	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	TAFE participation trends	Senator PRATT: Before I close with the centre, I want to ask this. Has the centre done any research on trends in TAFE participation over the last decade? Mr Walker: No specific research that I'm aware of. I've been in this job for two years. I'm aware of other publications. If it's a case of just looking at the participation by students, for example, and government funded activity through TAFEs, that's a relatively easy bit of analysis. I can certainly provide that. Senator PRATT: I beg your pardon? Mr Walker: If it's just a simple analysis of numbers of students participating in TAFE over a certain period, particularly if it's government funded, because we have that data going back quite a few years— Senator PRATT: That would be great if you could— Mr Walker: that's something we can provide. Senator PRATT: That would be terrific. Thank you. Take that on notice.	10/12/2020
461		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020	87	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Gender participation rates	Senator PRATT: Finally, what are the updated apprentice and trainee in training figures for trade and non-trade by gender and jurisdiction? It's a bit complicated so I'll put that one on notice to you. Gender and STEM in vocational training have been raised. Are you able to break down by gender participation in trade qualifications as well at a national level? Mr Walker: Specifically around STEM or just trade qualifications more broadly? Senator PRATT: Probably both, because I'm sure it will equally reveal that qualifications such as hairdressing and aged care have a lower level of men than women participating in them. I am interested to see the gender biases of student choices. Mr Walker: We could give you the gender breakdown by trades; that's straightforward and no problem. There's no universally applied definition of STEM in relation to qualifications. Senator PRATT: Just by trade is fine.	10/12/2020
462		Spoken	Louise Pratt	29/10/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Student pathways into trades	Senator PRATT: Is there any analysis of the high school background of students who've gone into trades, be it a private or public education? I'm assuming—this is very much an anecdotal assumption; I would be interested if it's unpacked—that at boys schools there will be some boys that do go on to trades. At state schools, there will be some girls that might go on to do a male trade, although not very many. At only girls schools, there wouldn't be many girls that go on and do a male trade. That is just an anecdotal observation. I would be interested in any of the insights you've got that look at student pathways into TAFE in terms of their previous educational background by schooling type and whether those private schools are segregated in any way. Mr Walker: The best I can do is have a look at what we have got. Senator PRATT: Thank you.	10/12/2020
463		Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	How COVID-19 has affected student numbers?	We've heard before that while the Prime Minister and Ministers referring to 4.2 million students studying VET qualifications in Australia, that more than a third of those students (1.54 million) were actually in courses that took 8 hours or less. How has that figure changed given COVID?	10/12/2020
464		Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	VET short courses	1. Could you tell us with how many of VET students are studying courses that take 50 hours or less? 2. How many registered training organisations cater exclusively to these short courses in the market? 3. Do these organisations deliver other – more substantive – qualifications? 4. How does this compare to TAFEs? What proportion of students are studying these short courses compared to these more substantive recognised qualifications?	10/12/2020
465		Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Total number of students studying nationally recognised qualifications	On the most recent data, how many students are studying a nationally recognised qualification?	10/12/2020
466		Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Enrolment figures	1. What are most training package qualifications by number of enrolments? 2. Can you please break it down by provider type?	10/12/2020
467		Written	Louise Pratt	6/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Breakdown of apprentice and trainee numbers	Could you please provide updated apprentice and trainee in-training figures for trade, non-trade and both - by gender, jurisdiction and federal electorate from 30 Sept 2018 to most recently available data (as per SQ19-0014291)?	10/12/2020
468		Written	Katy Gallagher	13/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Contractors and labour hire	1. Please provide the following figures: a. Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 b. Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 c. Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 i. In total ii. As a percentage of total staff headcount. d. As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20. 2. Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. 3. Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details.	10/12/2020
469		Written	Katy Gallagher	13/11/2020		Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Contracts for market research	In relation to contracts for market research: a. How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? b. How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? c. Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: i. Total contract value ii. Supplier iii. If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee	10/12/2020

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470		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Executive Management	In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020: a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.	10/12/2020
471		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	10/12/2020
472		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Furniture and office supplies	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost.	10/12/2020
473		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Facilities upgrades	1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. 2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). 3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.	10/12/2020
474		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
475		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
476		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Staff allowances	Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.	10/12/2020
477		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Market research	1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred	10/12/2020
478		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Advertising and information campaigns	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. The timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.	10/12/2020
479		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Promotional merchandise	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.	10/12/2020
480		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Social media influencers	1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote. 3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided. 4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.	10/12/2020
481		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Commissioned reports and reviews	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. 2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost. 3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel. 4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel 5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review. 6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level. 7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.	10/12/2020
482		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Board appointments	1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio 3. Please detail any board appointments made from 30 June 2020 to date. 4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid. 5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors. 6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors.	10/12/2020
483		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Media monitoring	1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.	10/12/2020
484		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.	10/12/2020
485		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Staffing	1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020. 2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing. 3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were: a. voluntary b. involuntary. 4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies. 5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff. 6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
486		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Comcare	1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status. 2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.	10/12/2020
487		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Fair Work Commission	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020

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488		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Fair Work Ombudsman	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
489		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.	10/12/2020
490		Written	Kimberley Kitching	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Public Interest Disclosures	For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	10/12/2020
491		Written	Bridget McKenzie	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Staff working from home	1. What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department/agency? 2. How has the Department/agency measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? 3. What is the number of sick days from the Department/agency with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019?	10/12/2020
492		Written	Louise Pratt	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	PM's Press Conference Warning of Sophisticated State Based Campaign of Cyber Attacks	1. On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell (https://www.pm.gov.au/media/statement-malicious-cyber-activity-against-australian-networks) the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure." He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks." What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take 'to enhance the resilience of their networks' after the Prime Minister's warning? 2. The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity." Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 3. Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister? 4. Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 5. Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks? a. If so, please provide them to the committee. 6. Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference? 7. Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister?	10/12/2020
493		Written	Louise Pratt	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	DMARC Implementation in Commonwealth Government Entities	1. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? 2. Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? 3. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? 4. Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? 5. Does the Information Security Manual guidance (https://www.cyber.gov.au/accs/view-all-content/guidance/email-gateways-and-servers) for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? 6. The ACS's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" (https://www.cyber.gov.au/accs/view-all-content/publications/malicious-email-mitigation-strategies) provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations." Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?	10/12/2020
494		Written	Louise Pratt	13/11/2020	Agency - National Centre for Vocational Education Research	APS Staff Cyber Security Training	1. Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training? 2. How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions? 3. Who administers and conducts this training? 4. Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions? 5. Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network? a. If so, what was the outcome of those considerations? 6. What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide?	10/12/2020