

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. CA0034_12

Senator Furner asked on 17 February 2012, Hansard page 34

Question

Remote Area Teacher Education program

Senator FURNER: May I get some feedback about the Remote Area Teacher Education program in Queensland? How has that been travelling?

Ms Taylor: I am happy to provide that information, but I will have to provide it on notice. Unfortunately we were not aware early enough that you had education questions, so the relevant officer is not with us. But I am happy to take any questions on those matters or any early childhood questions on notice.

Senator FURNER: In doing so, can you also provide some figures for the retention rate of those teachers and on the types of professional development which have been occurring in that program?

Ms Taylor: Certainly. I know there was also some information at the DEEWR committee hearing yesterday on that as well. So I am very happy to provide that for you.

Answer

The Remote Area Teacher Education Program (RATEP) is a Queensland government program and as such, questions regarding retention rates of participating teachers and the types of professional development provided are best answered by the Queensland Department of Education and Training.

Queensland is receiving up to \$87.6 million from the Australian Government under the *Smarter Schools - Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership* to implement a number of reforms. As part of its implementation of the TQNP (TQNP), Queensland has expanded the RATEP. Queensland's 2011 Smarter Schools Progress Report, provided in November 2011, showed that the RATEP is progressing well and agreed milestones relating to the program have been met.