

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-187

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: SHALOM COLLEGE

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Scullion

Question:

I understand Shalom College has been placed into administration. It has been suggested that the financial issues faced by Shalom College can be remedied once a backlog of Abstudy claims is resolved.

Given that the situation at Shalom College appears to be resolvable, will the Department instruct the administrator not to take drastic action until there has been an opportunity to resolve the Abstudy issue? Could the Department ask the Administrator to facilitate resolution of the Abstudy issue?

Answer:

No. Shalom Christian College is an Independent School. Funding issues in relation to Independent schools should be raised with the Department of Employment, Education and Work Relations and/or the Department of Human Services.

The Department of Health and Ageing has ensured both of these departments are aware of the voluntary administration arrangements entered into by the Congress Community Development and Education Unit, which operated Shalom Christian College.