

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Agency: AITSL

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000405

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing

AITSL - National Initial Teacher Education and Teacher Workforce Data Strategy

Question

In the last communique from the Education Minister's meeting, the education council approved a proposal by AITSL to develop the National Initial Teacher Education and Teacher Workforce Data Strategy. What is the progress on this?

- a. Has it been fully funded by the government?
- b. What is the cost of the first stage?
- c. Are there any preliminary costings of the next stages?
- d. What data will the strategy actually collect?
- e. Will it be mandatory for schools to provide this data?
- f. Will it be incumbent on teachers self-reporting?
- g. If teachers will self-report, how much time is it expected this will take teachers?
- h. Will funding be provided to schools to compensate for the extra workload?
- i. Given issues with the nationally consistent data on students with disability, how can AITSL ensure the quality of data?

Answer

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) has provided the following response:

- a. The implementation of the National Initial Teacher Education and Teacher Workforce Data Strategy (NDS) has been fully funded by Education Council for four years from July 2017.
- b. The total funding for the NDS as agreed by Education Council is \$5 million (GST exclusive) over four years from July 2017 to cover the establishment of the NDS, annual data uploads and reporting of data for the four year period.
- c. No.

- d. The data items to be collected by the NDS were defined in a minimum dataset which was developed through research commissioned by AITSL in partnership with the Australian Government in December 2015. The minimum dataset was endorsed in principle by Education Council in 2016. The NDS will collect unit level data from existing data collections to fill the minimum dataset including from the following:
- Higher Education Student Data Collection (HESDC)
 - Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)
 - Teacher regulatory authorities in each jurisdiction
 - Self-report questionnaires to be completed by teachers during their annual registration/renewal cycle. These questionnaires are not mandatory and will only be used to supplement data collected from teacher regulatory authorities where they do not collect all the minimum dataset items.
- e. The NDS will not be collecting any data from schools.
- f. As stated in d above, this method of data collection is not mandatory. It will only be collected with each teacher's consent.
- g. It is expected that self-report questionnaires will not take longer than 10 – 15 minutes once per year. The time taken will vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction depending on the data items currently collected.
- h. No as no data will be collected from schools.
- i. ITE data is currently collected through the Higher Education Student Data Collection. Stringent data integrity processes and criteria for consistency are applied by the Australian Government for HESDC and QILT data.

AITSL will ensure data quality by working with jurisdictions to develop a robust data dictionary for the NDS based on a detailed understanding of the data items collected in each jurisdiction.