

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0285_15

Senator O'Neill asked on 4 June 2014 , Hansard page 16

Question

Process for questions on notice from additional estimates hearing

Senator O'NEILL: I want to return to the questions on notice, if this is an appropriate place to ask. Ms Paul: Yes. Senator O'NEILL: They were late in being returned. My question is about the process. You create the answers to the questions on notice. Do they then go to the minister's office? Ms Paul: Yes, they go through the minister's office, as they have always done. Senator O'NEILL: Right. What happens then? Ms Paul: Then they come back through us and they come to you. Senator O'NEILL: Is there an editing process that the minister can undertake for work provided by the department? Ms Paul: Ministers' offices or ministers have always had that capacity. That has always been the case. They are cleared, if you like, through ministers' offices. Nothing has changed with the change of government in terms of our process. Ultimately, of course, they are the department's answers. Senator O'NEILL: Do we know how long the questions were sitting with the minister from the time they were completed by the department and made available to us? Ms Paul: No, I don't. Senator O'NEILL: Would you be able to find that out? Ms Paul: Sure.

Answer

Please refer to written question on notice ED0251_15.