

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000315

Senator Carr, Kim on 03 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 63

National partnership agreement on skills reform

Question

Senator KIM CARR: There has been a question about the veracity of the South Australian government on this question, so let us go through a few propositions. What conversations have you had with the South Australian officials about the national partnerships over the last three months?

Dr Banerjee: I would need to take the longer time period on notice. I can offer a couple of reflections from formal meetings. I can take on notice the comprehensive answer over the three months.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. If you would not mind.

Answer

Over the last three months, officials in the Department of Education and Training have had conversations with officials from the South Australian Department of State Development about the National Partnership Agreement on Skills Reform around assessment processes and timeframes for the annual performance reports, as well as general conversations about skills issues and reforms underway in the context of the South Australian Budget.

These conversations are in addition to regular formal meetings between officials of the Commonwealth and States and Territories via the Senior Skills Officials Network, at which South Australia was represented, which occur once or twice a month as needed.

The Department was not informed of the details of the South Australian Government's new 'WorkReady' strategy, including the new list of training courses to be subsidised, until after the South Australian Government's announcement on 21 May 2015.