

## Senate Committee: Education and Employment

### QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Outcome: Agency: ACARA**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000316**

Senator Lines, Sue asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 79

#### ***ACARA: development of classical languages***

#### **Question**

Senator LINES: I am looking back at ACARA's response to a question at additional estimates. ACARA responded to feedback on the draft Shape of the Australian curriculum: Language and indicated strong support for the development of classical languages. What do you take as strong support, Mr Randall?

Mr Randall: I will take that on notice. Again, I would need to go back. I am happy to provide all the papers behind the—

Senator LINES: Yes. I appreciate that.

Mr Randall: consultation reports that Shape had. I will take all that on notice and present the papers to you.

Senator LINES: Were past enrolments ever taken into account at all when looking at the demand for classical Greek?

Mr Randall: I will take that on notice.

#### **Answer**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response:

Feedback on the draft Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages was provided in both written submissions and by an online survey. In their written submissions, the following jurisdictions called for the development of classical languages:

- South Australia – Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS)
- New South Wales – Board of Studies.

In total 2150 online surveys were received in response to the draft Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages. Of these, 1084 respondents requested that ACARA develop languages other than the 12 that had been identified for development (Arabic, Chinese, Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Modern Greek, Spanish, Vietnamese).

The following table shows the degree of support for the development of further languages:

#### **Languages supported for development**

Turkish	834
Hindi	87
Auslan	22
Classical languages	119
Other	22
Total	1084

ACARA does not have data on how many schools teach classical languages. Therefore, enrolments were not considered when looking at demand for classical Greek.