

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

**Outcome: Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000627**

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 01 June 2017, Proof Hansard page 12

***Stocktake***

**Question**

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Dr Bruniges, the issue is this: you have an existing agreement, Education has an existing agreement, that is due to terminate at the end of this financial year and your stocktake, it seems, only looked at proposals to Education, not at existing agreements within Education. That is the oversight I am concerned might apply in other areas.

Dr Bruniges: Right. I assure you that our stocktakes are thorough, but I am happy to take that on notice, to look at the difference between the proposals and the stocktake.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: As I said, the most alarming thing here is—I understood the issue around Health—if the existing agreement is an Education one.

Dr Bruniges: I think there is a combination of agreements, but I am happy to take that on notice for you to find out the details from an education point of view.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: If you could find out for me, on notice, two things: why was this existing agreement with Education not identified in the stocktake and, now undertaking perhaps a more comprehensive audit of the existing agreements in Education, what other areas may have been overlooked?

Dr Bruniges: I am happy to take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Department of Education and Training conducted a stocktake of ceasing programs in August 2016.

A further, more detailed stocktake was performed identifying individual funding agreements in June 2017.

The stocktakes were of existing government programs and funding agreements, not of external requests for government funding.

The department continues to monitor ceasing programs and agreements.