

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0031_14

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

Enhanced professional development for school leaders election policy

In relation to the Government's election policy 'enhanced professional development for school leaders':

- The Government has committed to develop a new MBA-style school leadership program. What defines an MBA-style, and how will this program will be developed? And by who?
- Who will deliver the program? When will it commence? Will any tertiary education institution be able to deliver the program? Will it be a full time program for 1 year? Or 2?
- The Government policy states that the cost of undertaking the program will be met by the employer or employee. How much will this cost?
- Has any funding been allocated to assist schools in making use of this MBA-style program?
- What is the expected take-up of the program?
- Has the Department received any direction from the Minister on the design of the program?
- The government's election policy points out that 'day to day administration skills' are needed by principals in 'independent' state schools, and that these skills will be the focus of the MBA-style program. Will completing this program be a requirement of becoming a principal at one of the new 'independent' state schools which the Government has said they will fund?
- How will this program fit into the existing professional development framework for teachers?

Answer

The Australian Government recognises that strong school leadership will be essential if autonomous systems of schooling are to be successful and has committed to supporting the development of a professional learning programme for school leaders.

The Government is currently working to determine the detail of the scope and approach to implementing this election commitment.