

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0539_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

QoNs from Budget Estimates

In relation to each answer to education portfolio Questions on Notice asked at Budget Estimates:

- a. On what date was each answers prepared by the Department first submitted to the Minister's office?
- b. On what date was each answer prepared by ACARA and AITSL first submitted to the Department or the Minister's office?
- c. Were any answers changed by the Minister's office? Which ones? What changes were made?
- d. Were any answers written in the Minister's office?
- e. For each question where the answer – or part of the answer – was not provided on the basis of the public interest, if any:
 - i. Was an assessment of the public interest undertaken? How?
 - ii. Who made the final decision?

Answer

- a. The majority of the department's answers to Questions on Notice asked at Budget Estimates were provided to the Minister's office on Friday 11 July. The remaining answers were provided within the following two weeks.
- b. ACARA provided answers to Questions on Notice to the Department by Tuesday 8 July. AITSL had no Questions on Notice from the budget estimates hearing.
- c. Consistent with usual practice, advisers will, at times, make suggestions that the department takes into consideration in finalising its response. Nevertheless, the responses are those of the department.
- d. No
- e. No answer or information was withheld on the basis of public interest immunity.