

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0541_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

Curriculum Review correspondence

In relation to Ministerial correspondence (including electronic correspondence) about the Curriculum Review: a. Since the announcement of the Curriculum Review, how much correspondence has the Minister received in relation to the Review? b. How many items of correspondence have been responded to? c. What is the average time taken to respond? d. How many items of correspondence has the Minister signed? How many have been signed by his office? How many have been signed by the Department? How many have not been responded to? e. How many correspondence items, and what proportion of the overall number of correspondence items relating to the Review, have related to comments of Professor Barry Spurr? f. How many correspondence items have raised concerns about the review process? What is their proportion in relation to the overall number of correspondence items relating to the review? g. Across all issues raised in relation to the review, what proportion of items have been supportive of the review and what proportion have not been supportive? h. How many items, and what proportion of overall correspondence about the review, has expressed support for the current curriculum? i. items related to school funding and cuts announced in the Budget? What proportion has supported the cuts? What proportion has opposed?

Answer

- a. From 10 January 2014 to 10 November 2014, 570 items of correspondence received by the department contained the word curriculum in the correspondence heading.
- b. As at 10 November 2014, 336 of the 570 items of correspondence have been responded to.
- c. Obtaining this information would be highly resource intensive (in excess of 50 hours to extract).
- d. The department replied to nine of the 336 items of correspondence, with the remainder (327) replied by the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education. 234 items of correspondence were given the status of For Information Only or No Further Action.
- e. Four records have been received in relation to Professor Barry Spurr.
- f. Obtaining this information would be highly resource intensive (in excess of 50 hours to extract)
- g. Obtaining this information would be highly resource intensive (in excess of 50 hours to extract)
- h. Obtaining this information would be highly resource intensive (in excess of 50 hours to extract)
- i. This information is provided in response to ED0540_15