

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000989

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 63

National schools resourcing body

Question

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Just one last issue related to the Gonski recommendations: Minister, on Q&A on 26 September, you indicated that you were very open to the idea of having a national schools resourcing body. Has that issue been raised with the ministerial council or with states or territories; and what feedback do you have on that issue?

Senator Birmingham: I think it came up in the discussions at the education council. I cannot entirely recall it, Senator Collins.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Would you like to that on notice?

Senator Birmingham: I am happy to take it on notice and see whether the minutes or anything else reflect that. Of course such a body only works if all jurisdictions are willing to play ball in it in terms of: if it is a resourcing allocation body, then you would expect that everybody is actually letting it drive or influence resource allocation decisions, not just resource allocation decisions for the Commonwealth. So there is a big question there as to whether any of the states are equally open to it. Certainly the sense I have had to date is more one of resistance than enthusiasm.

Answer

The concept of a national schools resourcing body has not been minuted or discussed at ministerial council.