

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
17 October 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: 'MyUniversity' website

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 17 October 2012, pages 84-85)

QUESTION No.: SI-39

Senator MASON: You have not been dissuaded from the My University website?

Senator Chris Evans: No.

Senator MASON: I know there is criticism; I am not saying I agree with it all.

Senator Chris Evans: I think the criticism has dampened.

Senator MASON: Is that right?

Senator Chris Evans: And the legitimate criticism is about accuracy of information and more information, and that is fine. But if we waited for everyone to be happy before we put up the site, you and I would be long retired.

Senator MASON: I agree with that.

Senator Chris Evans: So we got on with it and there was some criticism but most people got in behind it. We said we would address those concerns and we have been. I think it will be a very useful addition to information for students and my experience with students is that they like it. It is about transparency and providing information to students in the form where are they now gather their information. Producing little booklets and distributing them around offices will not help them at all.

Senator MASON: It is complementing the My School website, in a sense.

Senator Chris Evans: Yes.

Senator MASON: Could you take that on notice?

Senator Chris Evans: We will get back to you about the finances. I just wanted to be clear with you that if I am minister we will continue to fund whatever needs to be funded to keep it going.

Senator MASON: How much do you think it will cost each year to run?

Dr Taylor: As David mentioned, these things are front-loaded. Early on and even in September, we have had to build extra elements onto My University. So it is no bad thing that we have to go away and cost it again for ongoing funding when you do not have to do so much of the upfront build.

Senator MASON: It is going to cost something, that is my point.

Dr Taylor: Indeed

ANSWER

Please refer to the response for SI-40