SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09

Outcome 2

DEEWR Question No. EW0923 09

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

Question

Gifted Education - response time to previous Question on Notice

In July 2007 Minister Bishop announced \$1.2 million in additional funding for gifted education programs in 2008. In your written answer on this matter, following the last Senate Budget Estimates hearings (DEEWR Question No. EW849_09) the Department responded: As contractual arrangement had not as yet been entered into for the gifted education workshops, all remaining funds under QOP-Other were allocated to savings proposals or returned to the budget. Why did it take the Department almost four months to provide the answer to this rather straight forward question?

Answer

It appears this question was inadvertently overlooked in clearance procedures within the relevant area of the Department.