

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 3  
**Output Group** 3.3 - AEI Group

#### **DEST Question No. E151\_05**

Senator Carr asked on 3 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 77.

#### **Question:**

Does English Australia have a permanent seat on the Board of NEAS because the Commonwealth initially approached that organisation?

#### **Answer:**

*NEAS Board*

The Council of English Australia (EA) nominates and approves the Directors of NEAS Australia, including one permanent seat for an EA representative. The EA, previously known as the ELICOS Association, established the NEAS as a company registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission in 1990. NEAS is an industry-based, non-profit, self-funding, autonomous accreditation agency. Minister Dawkins, then Minister for Education, encouraged the EA to establish a national accreditation agency for ELICOS providers, because there were problems in the industry caused by a number of poor quality ELICOS providers. At that time, the EA was the only organisation large enough, and with appropriate expertise, to set up an accreditation agency for ELICOS courses.