

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for higher education.

#### **DEST Question No. E313\_06 (Amended)**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

What consultation took place prior to the announcement with:

- The medical profession
- Medical educators
- The Deans of Medicine
- The AMA
- The ADF

#### **Answer:**

##### *Medical Consultation*

DEST was not involved in consultation with the medical profession, medical educators, the AMA or the ADF about the specific Study of Medical Education prior to the Minister's announcement on 18 February 2005. Health workforce and medical training issues have been the subject of consideration by Government, medical practitioners and medical stakeholders for some time. The proposed study is one contribution to informing public debate on these issues. The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has also commissioned a paper from the Productivity Commission on health workforce issues that will influence delivery of health services in the future; the Commission is due to report in December 2005. Both studies will be informed by significant public consultation. The views of stakeholders including the medical profession, medical educators, Deans of Medicine, the AMA, the ADF, the Rural Doctors Association of Australia, the Australian Medical Students Association and other medical education stakeholders have been sought from the outset of the DEST Study of Medical Education.