

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority

DEEWR Question No. EW0323_13

Senator Back asked on 30 May 2012 , Hansard page 19

Question

ACARA - Primary Industry Centre for Science Education

Senator BACK: My only question before we finish relates to PICSE—the Primary Industry Centre for Science Education. Professor David Russell at the University of Tasmania chairs that group. It is a group devoted to students leaving year 11 and going into year 12—a program encouraging them in science education, not just agriculture education. Have you had any engagement at all with PICSE? Mr Randall: It is not an organisation that comes to mind. That does not mean that we have not—there are people working in our area who talk to more people than I do. I will take that on notice and ask them. My interest with that group right now would be—if I go back to my earlier statements—in encouraging them to look at our draft senior secondary curriculum.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

During the 2010 national consultation on the draft senior secondary science curriculum ACARA did not receive feedback from the Primary Industry Centre for Science Education.

ACARA developed an extensive stakeholder database during the consultation period and continues to engage with individuals and organisations as the science curriculum is developed.

ACARA will add PICSE to the stakeholder database and make contact to seek their feedback on the draft senior secondary science curriculum currently available for consultation.