

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000398**

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

***HELP - DNER calculation***

**Question**

Has there been any internal or external evaluation of the process used to calculate DNER and other key performance measures associated with the HELP program? How were these measures initially developed? Have there been any changes in the accounting process and, if so, what is the nature of these changes?

**Answer**

The key performance indicators (KPIs) for HELP were developed by the department as a comparable way of monitoring the progress of the programme. These KPIs are monitored on an ongoing basis by the department, drawing on technical analysis and advice from the Australian Government Actuary. The KPIs have not been externally evaluated. There have been no changes to the accounting process since the KPIs were introduced as part of the department's 2012–13 Portfolio Budget Statements.