

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. SQ16-000411

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

Proposed National Institute for Learning and Teaching

Question

I note Professor Ross Milbourne's report on the new National Institute for Learning and Teaching. I note that Prof Milbourne emphasises the high regard held almost universally for the current Office for Learning and Teaching. On p.9, for example, he says:

"...the overwhelming view of the sector is one of near-unanimous praise for the OLT and what it has been able to achieve."

- Given the high regard for it, can you explain why the Government is replacing the OLT?
- Please provide details of the previously projected budget for the OLT to 2018-19 and the current estimate of the budget for its replacement to 2018 19.
- Has a home for the Institute been determined? Have a Director been appointed? If not, why not?
- Does the Government plan to implement Prof Milbourne's recommendation for the establishment of an external expert panel to advise the Institute? If not, why not?

Answer

- (i) The decision to replace the OLT was taken in the 2015–16 Budget context. The change was made to base the promotion of excellence in learning and teaching in universities.
- (ii) The pre-2015–16 Budget projection for the Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (PELTHE), and the 2015–16 Budget estimates are:

	2016–17 \$'000	2017–18 \$'000	2018–19 \$'000
Pre-Budget 2015–16	14,311	14,671	15,041
2015–16 Budget estimate	11,756	8051	8207

- (iii) and (iv) These matters are under consideration by government.