

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0329_15

Senator Collins asked on 4 June 2014 , Hansard page 121

Question

Loading rationale

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: On that point—it relates to a wrap-up question I wanted to ask across the groups, as well—Senator McKenzie asked questions similar to this in the select committee and the answer that came back, I thought, was quite limited. We were provided with the rationale for the lower SES one, but then the answer said, 'Specific research papers on the other five loadings were not developed.' That may well be the case but the rationale— Senator McKENZIE: That is not a good policy development process to have the whole loading system— Senator JACINTA COLLINS: This is what I am suggesting, Senator McKenzie. I am trying to assist in the answer to that. Whilst Senator McKenzie might have asked for papers, I think it was pretty clear that she was seeking the rationales. As we were just talking about, the Indigenous one went before the reference group, for instance. So there was a consultation process, and the rationale for those changes was fairly well canvassed. I do not think it should be difficult to describe the rationale behind why that occurred the way that it did, if you could please do that. Mr Cook: We would possibly have a PowerPoint presentation that was used for some of that, which will probably be helpful. That was probably my fault because I literally went to research papers and that paper was the most research embedded. The other one was more a PowerPoint presentation and some of it was government decision based on— Senator McKENZIE: A PowerPoint presentation? Senator JACINTA COLLINS: The PowerPoint presentation was describing the rationale. Mr Cook is saying he could potentially go back to it. Senator McKENZIE: Were there footnotes in the PowerPoint presentation describing the rationale that may have included research papers? Mr Cook: I do not know. Senator McKENZIE: Anyway, you will take that on notice, Mr Cook. Thank you so much.

Answer

SRS Model Presentation which outlines current settings and rationales. See **Attachment A**.