

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

#### **Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0226\_14**

**Senator O'Neill asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 102**

#### **Future Funding for School Students with Disability**

##### **Question**

Ms Paul: As Mr Cook said, the government is fully committed to extending the support to students with disability. It places a high priority on supporting students with disability. So, basically, we have described now what the process is ongoing. Senator O'NEILL: Have you got any costs on these matters? Mr Hehir: As I said, the costing exercise has to be undertaken against the levels of adjustment provided to students with disability. Given that we have only just collected the first set of data on that, we cannot undertake the costing exercise until term 1 of next year. Senator O'NEILL: In terms of time lines, would you be able to provide on notice a guide as to how that process is going to be undertaken? Mr Cook: We can do that.

##### **Answer**

The project to collect data on the additional resources provided to support the three levels of adjustment (supplementary, substantial and extensive) for students with disability will be undertaken in government, Catholic and independent schools over the period of mid December 2013 to September 2014:

- December to February 2013 – development of the data collection methodology; development, refinement and testing of the data collection tool; development of user guides; establishment of relationships with schools and orientation
- March 2014 - piloting of the survey instrument in eight schools nationally to collect the data on the costs of adjustments
- April 2014 - data to be collected about the costs of adjustments for students with disability from a target sample of at least 120 schools (6500 target students) nationally
- June 2014 - due date for final report for the project
- September 2014 - consideration of findings by the Strategic Policy Working Group.