

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

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

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0608\_15**

**Senator Wright asked on 22 October 2014 , Hansard page 18**

**Question**

**curriculum reviewers**

Senator WRIGHT: I have a few more questions going back to the curriculum review. I am interested to know if any of the reviewers who were appointed are connected with the Institute of Public Affairs of the Centre for Independent Studies? Ms Paul: I do not know. Mr Cook: I will have to take that on notice. I am not aware of that level of detail. Senator WRIGHT: That would be useful in terms of all of the reviewers. Ms Paul: We would not have known, of course, because we were not— Senator WRIGHT: Obviously we don't have the right people here to ask that question of, so you will need to take that on notice. .... Senator WRIGHT: Thank you for that. Again, how many of the reviewers who were appointed—and again I understand that perhaps you will not be able to give this answer now—were on the Menzies Research Centre's academic advisory board? Is it just Greg Melleuish and Alex Robson or were there others? Ms Paul: We will take it on that same question on notice, if you like. .. Senator WRIGHT: I would like to ask, then, what would qualify him as a curriculum expert? If you could ask the reviewers who appointed him to provide that information. The one public school teacher who was appointed to the 16 reviewers is Michele Chigwidden, who lives and works in Minister Pyne's electorate. I am interested to know what her expertise is in relation to the curriculum, how she came to be selected, why she was selected and if it is a coincidence that she lives in Minister Pyne's electorate or whether that was one of the aspects that was taken into account?

**Answer**

The subject matters specialists were commissioned by Professor Ken Wiltshire AO and Dr Kevin Donnelly to undertake analysis of the curriculum content of the various learning areas. Specialists were commissioned based on their expertise in their respective learning areas. Any affiliation by these specialists with organisations is a matter for them.