

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Agency: ACARA**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000682**

Senator McKim, Nick asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 100

***ACARA - Online NAPLAN assessment***

**Question**

Senator McKIM: Finally on that: who would pay for hardware upgrades that are required?

Mr Randall: The Education Council has made some decisions about where the costs are, and I do not have it in front of me here. Again, if you wanted, we could provide that in notice.

Senator McKIM: I would like that on notice please.

Mr Randall: In broad terms, NAPLAN, as you would know, has operated on a shared costs basis. So ACARA is funded 50 per cent by the Australian government and the other 50 per cent from states and territories. So where they are our costs, there is an agreement to do that. Ultimately, in going to your question then, in terms of the costs of running things within states and territories, the agreement was they would be met within states and territories. So that is a council decision. I will take advice, sorry.

...

Ms Paul: We would need to check that it has been released, because the Education Council, which as you all know comprises all state and territory education ministers and the Commonwealth minister, makes its resolutions privately. So just let us check.

Senator McKIM: Perhaps if I can just put that on notice. I accept the caveat that you have just outlined.

**Answer**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response:

Under current policy settings, state and territory government, Catholic and independent school authorities are responsible for funding local readiness costs associated with the transition to NAPLAN online, including hardware upgrades.