

## Senate Committee: Education and Employment

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

#### Outcome: Schools and Youth

#### Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000711

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 133

#### *Maths by Inquiry*

#### Question

Senator O'NEILL: I wanted to ask a number of questions around STEM and coding in schools but time is going to get the better of me. Could you just respond to the coding cost curriculum. Mr Cook, you said that there was a tender process underway.

Mr Cook: That is correct.

Senator O'NEILL: Where is that up to? When we last had this conversation in June, I think—

Senator Birmingham: I think I announced the successful tenderer yesterday.

Senator O'NEILL: I might have missed that one.

Mr Cook: That was maths by inquiry. There are two maths by inquiry in coding across the curriculum.

Senator O'NEILL: I would like to get an update of what has been spent and where the resources are, because there is a need for these resources. We have already had a delay in the rollout of the technology curricula—I understand that some resources are being developed.

....

Mr Cook: ...Did you want maths by inquiry as well?

Senator O'NEILL: No that is okay, I will get that on notice if I can.

#### Answer

The Australian Academy of Science, working with the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers, has been selected through an open tender process to undertake the Mathematics by Inquiry project. A contract for \$6.4 million was signed on 13 October 2015 and announced on 20 October 2015.

In addition and as a result of work by the department and discussions with a range of mathematics education stakeholders, including a roundtable held on 7 May 2015, in 2014–15 the department commissioned:

- Education Services Australia to curate and annotate those resources on Scootle which support the *Australian Curriculum: Mathematics* in order to describe them more specifically and provide teachers with a better sense of which resources can support their needs.
- The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority to develop annotated work samples to support the *Australian Curriculum: Mathematics* proficiencies, focusing on problem-solving and reasoning.