

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

**Outcome**            **2**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0924\_09**

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

**Question**

*Gifted Education - former government funding announcements*

As the gifted education funding extension was announced in July, 2007 by Minister Bishop and the Parliament wasn't prorogued until, October 2007 ahead of the November Federal elections in 2007,

a) why weren't the contractual arrangements with Gifted Education Research Resources and Information Centre at the University of NSW executed in a timely way?

b) What caused the delay?

**Answer**

a) In July 2007, the former Minister for Education announced funding for several Gifted and Talented education initiatives.

Draft tender documentation, legal advice and a needs analysis for these commitments was completed in August/September 2007.

Tender processes commenced and were being progressed during October 2007 (with the intention that contracts would be executed by early November 2007).

An election was called on 14 October 2007, and the government entered into caretaker period.

b) Procurement processes were undertaken in a timely manner.