

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0869_11

Senator Cash provided in writing.

Question

SCHOOLS (RECOMMENDATION 11)

"Supporting the use of expert providers" ... a number of interventions have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing body image dissatisfaction in school students. The recommendations call for the Government to make additional funds available to support the delivery of existing body image programs in schools, through a process that leaves the choice of program with the school. Which education authorities has the Government worked with to support teachers in the development of appropriate materials on body image issues? How were these 'education authorities' selected?

Answer

The Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs has affirmed the importance of promoting positive body image and the opportunity to do so in an education environment.

The Australian Government has provided funding for The Butterfly Foundation to develop and expand its body image education resources and has commissioned Education Services Australia to develop a body image poster and supporting materials for schools. The body image poster and supporting materials draw on the 'Checklist for Body Image Friendly Schools' developed by the National Advisory Group on Body Image.

These resources will be available for schools and education authorities to utilise in the context of their existing programs, such as the health and physical education curriculum and teacher professional development.