

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority

**Department of Education Question No. ED0258_14
Senator Carr provided in writing.**

Question

information ACARA releases through FOI

The information that ACARA releases through FOI is not published electronically on the ACARA website. Of particular interest is the summary *My School* National Finance Data and the accompanying Key Messages document. See ACARA FOI disclosure log. Why is this information not electronically published? Is ACARA able to publish the information electronically?

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response:

ACARA's disclosure log is compliant with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1982. ACARA provides documents released under FOI on request, rather than publishing them electronically.

The specific documents referred to (summary *My School* National Finance Data and accompanying Key Messages) are thus listed, not published on ACARA's disclosure log, consistent with other information released under FOI by ACARA.

The documents in question were created for a specific purpose, i.e. to assist Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to prepare for the release of *My School* 2012 and *My School* 2013. The documents report on analyses undertaken in 2012 and 2013 on preliminary *My School* data sets, which were still undergoing validation and quality assurance processes. They do not report on analyses of the final, published *My School* data set.

ACARA publishes school financial data, including *My School* data aggregated to the national level with analysis of school funding by locality, school type and sector, through the annual *National Report on Schooling in Australia* for each calendar year.