

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research & International

Department of Education Question No. ED0381_14

Senator Rhiannon provided in writing.

Question

DIICCSRTE Higher Education support

1. Has there been any discussion or contemplation of the federal government assuming responsibility for university governance?
 - a. If yes:
 - i. may I have details or documentation of this please?
 - ii. Has any mapping of what this would involved be done, and may I have a copy?
 - b. If no, what would be the required process in making this happen?
2. What are the recognised issues around any model that would have a government assuming such responsibility?
3. Prior to the 16 December 2013 was any request made of the Department to give any advice on the issue of university governance?
 - a. If yes, may I have details the request and/or the advice provided please?

Answer

1. Yes.
 - a.
 - i. Initial consideration of issues and informal discussions with NSW have been undertaken.
 - ii. No mapping of a transfer process has been undertaken.
2. Issues for resolution cannot be definitively identified until the parties reach agreement on the scope, nature and timing of any proposed change.
3. The department provided a brief on this matter in December 2013, at the request of Minister Pyne's office.