

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

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

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0449\_14**

**Senator Carr asked on 26 February 2014, Hansard page 98**

**Question**

**Schools reviews**

Senator KIM CARR: I just noticed that the department seems to be running quite a large number of reviews at the moment, is it not? There is a review into indexation. There is a review into language proficiency and low socioeconomic status. How many other reviews do you have at the moment? ..... Senator KIM CARR: So, how many others do you have? Ms Paul: At the moment it would not be that many. I think we would have to take it on notice. .... Senator KIM CARR: ..... How many reviews do you have currently underway within the department? Ms Paul: For the whole portfolio? Senator KIM CARR: In the schools area. Mr Cook: We will take that on notice. Senator KIM CARR: Could you tell me the dates on which those reviews are to report? Mr Cook: I am happy to do that, noting some of those reviews are actually COAG reviews. Senator KIM CARR: Yes, but there is still quite a heavy workload in regard to the reviews. Mr Cook: But they are not department reviews as such. They are COAG reviews, which is the point I am making. Senator KIM CARR: But who is running them? Mr Cook: It would be state and territory with the Commonwealth. That is how COAG operates in that sense. Senator KIM CARR: If you would not mind telling me the cost of each review. Mr Cook: We can certainly take that on notice. Senator KIM CARR: What departmental support is being provided for those reviews?

**Answer**

**Attachment A** outlines the three reviews currently underway.

In January 2014, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP wrote to key stakeholders outlining his intention to consult during 2014 on review points of the Schooling Resource Standard model currently outlined in the NERA. These include an indexation review and reviews of Students with Disability, English Language Proficiency and Low Socio-economic Status loadings (table at **Attachment B** refers).

## Reviews currently underway

<b>Names of reviews</b>	<b>Dates on which the reviews are to report</b>	<b>Cost of each review</b>	<b>What departmental support is being provided</b>
Review of the Australian Curriculum	Preliminary report 31 March 2014; Final report – 31 July 2014	\$300 000 (GST inclusive)	Secretariat support including administration, research and analysis
Evaluation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan 2010-2014	Final evaluation report finalised in late 2014	\$1.1 million has been allocated over four years (2011- 2014). (GST inclusive)	The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Working Group (ATSIEWG) is responsible for overseeing the evaluation of the Plan. The Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment manages the evaluation in its role as chair of the ATSIEWG. The department provides input to ACIL Allen on National Collaborative Actions under the Action Plan
National Evaluation for the Low Socio-Economic Status National Partnership and the Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership –Impact Stage	Final report due March 2014	\$592 781 (GST inclusive)	Participation in the National Partnership Implementation Working Group – Evaluation Subgroup and provision of access to NAPLAN data

## Upcoming reviews

<b>Anticipated Timelines</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Output</b>
<b>March 2014</b>	Legislation	Consultation on proposed legislative amendments to reduce regulatory burden.	Reduce command and control.
<b>Late May 2014</b>	Review of indexation	Consultation on the terms of reference for the review of indexation arrangements.	The review to be completed by March 2015.
<b>June 2014</b>	Students with Disability Review	Consultation on nationally consistent methodology for calculating loading for students with disability (SWD).	The review findings available for consideration by 1 January 2015.
<b>July 2014</b>	English Language Proficiency Review	Consultation on nationally consistent methodology for calculating loading for English language proficiency (ELP).	The review findings available for consideration by 1 January 2015.
<b>July 2014</b>	Low Socio-economic Status Review	Consultation on improved methodology and data for calculating the loading for Low Socio-economic Status (Low SES).	The review findings available for consideration by 1 January 2015.