

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No.EW0010_12

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No's – [EW0056 11](#), [EW0241 11](#), [EW0798_10](#), [EW0807 10](#), [EW851 10](#) and [EW0846 10](#).

Question

Reviews

How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio? When will each of these reviews be concluded? What reviews have been concluded FYTD? Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? What further reviews are planned for 2010-11 FY?

Answer

The department and agencies have undertaken 24 reviews in the Financial Year 2010-2011. See [Attachment A](#) for details.

There were no further reviews planned for the 2010-11 Financial Year.

| Name of Review | Has the review been concluded FYTD? | What date will the review be concluded? | Has the review been provided to Government? | When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? | Estimated Cost of the Review |
|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| National Safe Schools Framework Review | Yes - July 2010 | Not applicable | Yes | MCCECDYA endorsed the revised National Safe Schools Framework in December 2010. The Framework was published in March 2011. | \$127,000.00 |
| Independent review of the impact of the job seeker compliance framework (Disney Review) | Yes – September 2010 | Not applicable | Yes | The Government has addressed some of the Review's recommendations as part of the 2011 Budget. | \$115,000.00 |
| AQF Council: Strengthening the AQF: An Architecture for Australia's Qualifications (3 Phases) | Yes - November 2010 | Not applicable | Yes | Public launch 23 June 2011. | \$1,250,000.00 |
| Review of the size and composition of the AITSL Board | Yes - December 2010 | Not applicable | Yes | Minister has responded accepting recommendations. | \$36,369.30 |
| Review of Regional Loading | Yes - December 2010 | Not applicable | Yes | The Government announced the response to the review in the 2011-12 Budget. | \$342,688.67 |
| National School Chaplaincy Program | Yes - February 2011 | Not applicable | Yes | To be determined by Government. | \$355,000.00 |
| Review of the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education | Yes - May 2011 | Not applicable | Yes | Any response and subsequent announcement would be determined by the Ministerial Council. | \$203,014.63 |
| OECD Review on Evaluation and Assessment Frameworks for Improving School Outcomes | Yes – May 2011 | Not applicable | Yes | To be determined by Government. | \$168,000.00 |
| Evaluation of the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) | Yes - June 2011 | Not applicable | No | To be determined by Government. | \$105,548.00 |
| Smarter Schools National Partnership (SSNP) National Evaluation – Phase 1 | No | December 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$1,335,499.00 |

| Name of Review | Has the review been concluded FYTD? | What date will the review be concluded? | Has the review been provided to Government? | When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? | Estimated Cost of the Review |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Evaluation of the Closing the Gap: <i>Expansion of Intensive Literacy and Numeracy Programs for Underachieving Indigenous Students initiative</i> | No | December 2012 | No | To be determined by Government. | <\$500,000.00 <i>Procurement process is yet to be finalised</i> |
| Literacy and Numeracy Pilot Meta-evaluation | Yes – June 2011 | Not applicable | No | To be determined by Government. | \$400,026.00 |
| Review of Funding for Schooling | No | End of 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$750,000.00 was allocated initially for 2010–11. A further \$4.8 million was approved as part of the 2010-11 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) process. |
| Post Implementation Review of VET FEE-HELP Assistance Scheme | No | September 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$137,736.16 |
| Asbestos Management Review | No | June 2012 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$1.5 million over three financial years. |
| OECD Review of Australia's Activation Policies | No | Report expected in second half of 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | Up to \$134,000.00 |
| Review of Disability Standards for Education 2005 | No | December 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$40,000.00 |

| Name of Review | Has the review been concluded FYTD? | What date will the review be concluded? | Has the review been provided to Government? | When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? | Estimated Cost of the Review |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Review of Higher Education Access and Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People | No | The Review Panel is required to report back to the Minister within 12 months of the announcement of the Review (made on 14 April 2011) | No | To be determined by Government. | Review Panel costs are estimated to total a maximum of \$1,500,000 over 2010-11 and 2011-12 |
| Higher Education Base Funding Review | No | October 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$1.5 million maximum we expect it to cost by completion-which covers the work over 2010-11 and 2011-12. |
| National Disability Coordination Officer Program – program evaluation | No | August 2011 | No | To be determined by Government. | \$240,735.00 |
| DIAC Business Skills Visa Program Review* | No | Mid 2011 | No | Under consideration. | Cost met from Departmental resources |
| Review of Employer Sanctions Legislation - Combating Illegal Work in Australia* | No | Expected July 2011 | No | Under consideration. | Cost met from Departmental resources |
| Better Regulation Ministerial Partnership - Visa Simplification and Deregulation Project * | No | June 2015 | No | Progressively from 1 July 2011. | Cost met from Departmental resources |
| The Review of Student Income Support Reforms | No | July 2011 | No | Under consideration. | \$90,000.00 |
| * Joint review where DEEWR had a notable contribution | | | | | |