

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

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

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0479_12

Senator Mason asked on 2/06/2011, Hansard page 74.

Question

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No [EW0860_11](#)

DER Website

Senator MASON: So the bottom line is the authorities were contacted late last year by letter. This is not correct, what it says here in the answer to the question on notice. And on the website, the frequently asked questions, when did that go up, Ms Bloor? Ms Bloor: From memory, shortly after the advice was provided to education authorities. Senator MASON: So late last year? Ms Bloor: Yes, I believe so. Senator MASON: Could you check? Ms Bloor: I could check, yes. Senator MASON: Thank you.

Answer

Written advice was provided to Government education authorities on 16 February 2011 following a teleconference with state and territory education department Chief Information Officers.

The written advice outlined three circumstances in which a school participating in the National Secondary School Computer Fund may be justified in charging a fee for access to computers and other information and communications technology (ICT). Those circumstances are:

- to maintain their existing investment in ICT
- to purchase high end or more expensive computers
- to extend the program to other year levels.

Written advice was provided to non-government education authorities on 25 February 2011 following a teleconference with non-government program administrators.

The Frequently Asked Questions section of the Digital Education Revolution website was updated on 1 March 2011.