Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2011–2012

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No. EW0486_12

Senator Boyce asked on 2/06/2011, Hansard page 86.

Question

NAPLAN - Revenue From Tests Back To Federal Government

Senator BOYCE: So is there any revenue coming from the NAPLAN tests to the federal government? Dr Bruniges: No, Senator. Senator BOYCE: None at all? Dr Bruniges: No, not that I am aware of. Senator BOYCE: So you are confident of that? You do not need to go and look? Dr Bruniges: I am happy to take it on notice to double-check, but to my knowledge, in the time I have been— Senator BOYCE: There is shaking of heads going on behind you. Dr Bruniges: Is there? Which way, Senator? Senator BOYCE: The 'no' way. Ms Collins: Part of the shaking of heads, though, is trying to understand the basis of the question. Are you suggesting that NAPLAN tests are being used in other circumstances, or what might generate alternative revenue? I am not sure what you are suggesting. Senator BOYCE: The sale of tests generates revenue, Minister. Ms Collins: And the contractor might be reselling the same tests that are used in NAPLAN. Is that the suggestion? Senator BOYCE: I am just asking that specific question: was there any revenue from the NAPLAN test? Ms Collins: Okay.

Answer

There is no revenue to the Commonwealth Government from the development of the NAPLAN tests.

The test development process is managed by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on behalf of all education ministers. The costs for test development are met by the Commonwealth and states and territories (Commonwealth 50 per cent and states and territories 50 per cent).

States and territories are responsible for NAPLAN test delivery. Some jurisdictions recover costs from non-government schools. This revenue does not come to the Commonwealth.