

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 - Funding for Higher Education

#### **DEST Question No. E646\_07**

Senator Stephens provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

- a) In relation to the changes with the assessment of four broad discipline groupings, the definition of excellence may be different for each discipline area depending on the results of the quantitative model and the respective recommendations of the expert panel.
  - i. What are the reasons behind possible different definitions of excellence for each discipline area?
  - ii. Could you please advise what these different definitions might be?
- b) The Expert Panel will prepare a general statement about its overall findings for 2007, which may be publicly released.
  - i. Has the Minister determined whether it will be publicly released?
  - ii. Under what circumstances will it not be publicly released?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Learning and Teaching Performance Fund*

- a) Those considered excellent in each discipline area are assessed relative to the other universities included in that discipline area. The range of scores in any one discipline group might be substantially different from another discipline area. Therefore, the panel needed the discretion to judge a particular score as excellent for one discipline group but not for another. The scores cannot be compared across discipline groups.
- b) (i) Yes, the expert panel statement has been publicly released.  
(ii) Not applicable.