

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome/Agency All

DEEWR Question No. EW788_09

Senator Humphries provided in writing:

Question

Reviews being undertaken in the Portfolio

- (i) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio/agency?
- (ii) When will each of these Reviews be concluded?
- (iii) Which Reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates?
- (iv) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?

Answer

There are nine reviews currently being undertaken in the portfolio. 24 reviews have been undertaken since Budget Estimates. A list of the reviews and their status is at Attachment A.

Attachment A

| | Name of Review | Status |
|---|--|---|
| Workplace Relations Implementation | | |
| 1 | Wilcox Consultation Process | The report to the Government is expected by end March 2009. |
| 2 | Working Women's Centres Review | Being considered. |
| 3 | Review of Self-Insurance Arrangements under the Comcare Scheme (Comcare Review) | Being considered. |
| 4 | National Review into Model Occupational Health and Safety Laws | Being considered. The Review's reports will be considered by the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council on 3 April 2009. |
| Higher Education | | |
| 5 | The Review of Australian Higher Education | The Minister released the Expert Panel's final report on 17 December 2008. |
| 6 | A Review of the Workplace Productivity Programme was undertaken in August 2008. The report is available at http://www.dest.gov.au/wpp | The Government will not provide a separate response to each of these completed Reviews. Instead, all three Reviews have been made available to the Review of Australian Higher Education. |
| 7 | A Review of the Learning and Teaching Performance Fund was completed in September 2008. The report is available at http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/policy_issues_reviews/key_issues/learning_teaching/tpf/default.htm | |
| 8 | A Review of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council was completed in August 2008. The report is available at http://www.altc.edu.au/carrick/go/home | |
| Youth, Industry Skills, Tertiary Skills and Productivity | | |
| 9 | An Evaluation of Australian Apprenticeships Access and Group Training in the Trades Programs, undertaken by KPMG on behalf of the Department was completed in August 2008. | Being considered. |
| 10 | An Evaluation of COAG Initiatives for Full and Effective Mutual Recognition was completed in June 2008. | A response by all jurisdictions to the report was published in July 2008 at: www.licencerecognition.gov.au . |
| 11 | The Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund was completed in October 2008. | The review was undertaken by the department for submission to the Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education. |
| 12 | Learning for Jobs: OECD Reviews of vocational education and training – Australia was completed on 7 November 2008. | Being considered. |
| 13 | Formative Evaluation of the Implementation of the Australian Quality Training Framework 2007 was completed on 31 October 2008. | The report is being considered by the National Quality Council and state and territory governments. |

| COAG and Schools | | |
|---|--|--|
| 14 | Office of Evaluation and Audit (OEA) audit on English Second Language – Indigenous Language Speaking Students (ESL – ILSS) – completed August 2008 | The Government's response was provided to the OEA in September 2008. |
| 15 | Review of Financial Questionnaire | The review will be completed by August 2009. |
| 16 | Internal Review of the National History Challenge and the Simpson Prize – two Australian history school competitions | The review will be completed by March 2009. |
| 17 | Evaluation of the Boosting Innovation in Science, Technology and Mathematics Teaching Program | The review will be completed by April 2009. |
| 18 | Career Advice Australia Evaluation | The review will be completed by November 2009. |
| 19 | Evaluation of Youth Pathways | The report expected by 2009. |
| 20 | Independent Evaluation of the An Even Start - National Tuition program | The review will be completed May 2009. |
| 21 | Review of Teaching Australia | The review will be completed Mid 2009. |
| 22 | Review of Online Curriculum Resources | The review will be completed April 2009. |
| Research Analysis and Evaluation | | |
| 23 | The Review of the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI) | A Government response is expected by 30 June 2009. |
| Social Inclusion and Participation | | |
| 24 | Participation Taskforce Review of participation requirements for parents and mature age job seekers. | Being considered |