

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No.EW0483_11

Senator Fielding provided in writing.

POST-ELECTION BRIEF FOR A NEWLY ELECTED COALITION GOVERNMENT

Question

"Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a newly elected Coalition Government (the 'Blue Book')? Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief? If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief? If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department? Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?"

Answer

Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a newly created Coalition Government (the 'Blue Book')?

The department prepared a draft brief but it was never finalised.

Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?

No.

If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief?

The document no longer exists. As is the usual administrative practice of the department under successive governments, it was destroyed at the time that the current Government took office.

If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department?

N/A - see above.

Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?

N/A - see above.