

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0602_12

Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

Question

NAPLAN On Line

"What is the cost benefit to put NAPLAN online? What role did the AEU reaction to NAPLAN have on the decision to put the test online? Are there any issues specific to regional schools in going to online NAPLAN? What are they? What steps are the developers of the program taking to either a) Assess the implications for rural state schools; or b) Address the issues that have arisen from consultations already occurring"

Answer

There has been no decision to put the NAPLAN test online. The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is working with the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, states and territories, and non-government education authorities to undertake a cost-benefit analysis that will inform future consideration of NAPLAN online delivery.

This cost-benefit analysis will assist in establishing a sound evidence base including approaches and outcomes of online assessment in other countries and an understanding of local technical and practical implementation issues (including those affecting rural and regional schools). In particular, these issues will include access to devices, bandwidth speed and reliability, technical support for schools and contingency planning.