

Dear Kelly

Thank you for the opportunity to respond . Given time frame and suggestion that dot points will suffice please find below Tasmania's response.

- Tasmania, along with the ACT, supported the introduction of the draft Education Standards at the July 2003 MCEETYA meeting.

- As illustrated clearly in the Regulatory Impact Statement arising from consultations conducted in early 2003, the main costs associated with the implementation of the Standards relate to professional learning to increase awareness among education and training providers of the requirements detailed in the Standards.

- It is, and has always been, Tasmania's view that the Standards serve to clarify requirements under the Act and do not impose any additional responsibilities on education providers. In fact, the Standards have advantaged education providers by extending the application of 'unjustifiable hardship' beyond enrolment.

- The Tasmanian Government has demonstrated its commitment to the implementation of the Standards by providing additional funding over the next triennium to support professional development for all school staff relating to compliance with the Act through the Education Standards.

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