

## Answers to questions on notice – 12 March 2012

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### Question on Notice:

The Hon. DAVID CLARKE: If you were present for Mrs Johnson's evidence you would have heard that the Parents and Citizens Association say that their organisation has no objection if this ethics course is put out to tender. Would the Australian Council of State School Organisations be in agreement with that?

Ms GIBLIN: I do not think that our organisation has discussed that in full yet and I would prefer to take that question on notice. We have an executive meeting this weekend and I would be more than happy to take that question and bring it back to you.

### Answer:

We would be ok with it going to tender however the applicants must meet tender requirements

### Question on Notice

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: I note your submission states, "This does not mean that the ACSSO wishes to remove SRE from our schools but rather ensure that young people were engaged in a meaningful alternative during this time." I note that not only your organisation but many people who have given evidence to this committee unequivocally have said that it is not about removing SRE, yet it seems underlying that SRE is getting such attention. This committee is looking at ethics, not SRE. Do you think allowing other ethics groups to have input into the curriculum would greatly enrich our schools?

Ms GIBLIN: I will take that question on notice and think about it.

### Answer:

I think that would be like asking should every maths teacher have input into any Math syllabus or any Catholic into the Catholic scripture syllabus

We are satisfied with the current arrangements – the curriculum is written by an expert; examined and commented on by a panel of experts; overseen by the DEC for age appropriateness then through the primary ethics board – fairly rich input we'd say.

The framework is available for examination on the website and comment would be heard. If other ethics groups wished to tender we would not object however this method is quite rigorous and inclusive