

Department of Education and Training response to letter of 3 April 2019, from Senator Gavin Marshall, Deputy Chair Senate Education and Employment Committee

1. **Copies of the following documents referred to in the letter from Greg Williams, Chair, Independent Communications Committee to the Secretary of the Department dated 16 January 2019:**
 - communication strategy
 - evaluation and developmental communications research
 - draft media strategy and indicative media plan overview
 - a statement against Principles 1 to 4 of the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by non-corporate Commonwealth entities (Guidelines).

Refer to SQ19-000015.

2. **Details of any briefings prepared for officers of the Department in relation to meetings with the Independent Communications Committee as referred to in the letter dated 16 January 2019.**

Refer to SQ19-00081.

3. **Copies of any notes from meetings between officers of the Department and the Independent Communications Committee as referred to in the letter dated 16 January 2019.**

Refer to SQ19-00081.

4. **Copies of any correspondence between officers of the Department and the Independent Communications Committee in relation to the Quality Schools (Phase Three) campaign, including emails.**

Refer to SQ19-00081.

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

Tabled Doc #: 3
Tabled by: Dr Michele Brunigo
Date: 5/4/19

5. **The estimated distribution of funding to the states and territories of the 2020 Extension to the National Partnership Agreement to Universal Access to Early Childhood Education, and the per child contribution for 2020.**

Proposed allocations for each jurisdiction for the 2020 funding are as follows:

NSW	\$136.7m
VIC	\$130.9m
QLD	\$82.3m
SA	\$28.9m
WA	\$46.5m
TAS	\$9.9m
NT	\$4.7m
ACT	\$9.6m

The per child funding amount for 2020 is \$1292.

6. **The updated budget estimates of the number of families and children in receipt of the Child Care Subsidy across the forward estimates.**

	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23
Children	1,699,000	1,759,000	1,820,000	1,883,000
Families	1,143,000	1,182,000	1,221,000	1,262,000

7. **Details of enrolment growth projections for university places funded through the Commonwealth Grants Scheme (CGS) over the forwards and medium term, compared with the projections from the 2017–18 Budget.**

The department does not collect estimates of undergraduate Commonwealth supported places (CSPs) for future years. The department only collects future estimates of bachelor CSPs at Table A providers.

Non-designated places

The tables below show actual total bachelor CSPs at Table A providers in 2017 and estimated bachelor CSPs 2018-2020 (as at April 2017) and 2018–2022 (as at October 2018).

	Estimated April 2017		
2017	2018	2019	2020
544,712	560,103	571,686	579,618

Actual	Estimated October 2018				
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
544,712	547,727	556,398	561,349	572,503	579,918

Designated places

The below table sets out actual sub-bachelor (including enabling) CSPs at Table A providers in 2017, estimates in 2018 and allocations from 2019 – 2021.

Actual	Estimate	Allocations		
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
23,734	22,487	19,877	20,155	20,205

The below table sets out actual postgraduate CSPs at Table A providers in 2017, estimates in 2018 and allocations from 2019 – 2021.

Actual	Estimate	Allocations		
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
35,440	35,368	36,802	36,802	36,802

The below table sets out actual undergraduate and postgraduate medical CSPs at Table A providers in 2017, estimates in 2018 and allocations from 2019 – 2021.

Actual	Estimate	Allocations		
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
12,449	12,395	12,521	12,716	12,816

The below table sets out actual CSPs at non-Table A providers in 2017, estimates in 2018 and allocations from 2019 – 2021. Non-Table A Data includes undergraduate, postgraduate coursework and medical places.

Actual	Estimate	Allocations		
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
6,977	6,782	7,084	7,084	7,084

8. Department's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns in the current financial year.

As at 31 March 2019, the department's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns in the current financial year is \$2,326,346 (ex. GST).

9. An itemised list of all advertising and information campaigns run by the Department for the current financial year, and the funds attributed to each campaign.

Phase three of the Quality Schools campaign is the only advertising campaign executed in the 2018–19 financial year.

The department has signed contracts to the value of \$8.5 million (ex. GST) / \$9.4 million (incl. GST).

10. **Detailed information about the advertising and information campaigns the department has planned for the rest of the 2018-19 year, including the content of those campaigns, estimated expenditure and detail on ad-buys and placements**

Phase three of the Quality Schools campaign is the only advertising campaign planned in the 2018–19 financial year.

Phase three is aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of the record funding through the Quality Schools package, and the potential positive impact it will have for students, parents and teachers.

The department has signed contracts to the value of \$8.5 million (ex. GST) / \$9.4 million (incl. GST). As at 31 March 2019, a total of \$2,239,346 (ex. GST) / \$2,463,281 (inc. GST) has been expended.

The total planned media buy is \$6.2 million (ex. GST) / \$6.8 million (incl. GST). Spend per channel at time of media buying is below.

Media type	Total net cost (ex. GST)	Total cost (inc. GST)
Television	\$2,065,684.69	\$2,272,253.16
Press (Indigenous and CALD only)	\$56,787.54	\$62,465.79
Radio	\$871,351.47	\$958,486.62
Out of home	\$1,299,351.97	\$1,429,287.17
Digital	\$1,752,569.90	\$1,927,826.90

11. **An itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in the financial year.**

- CN3521964
- CN3521963
- CN3526775
- CN3528391
- CN3560815
- CN3566368
- CN3566310.

12. **How much new money has been allocated to the measure, how much has been funded by redirecting unallocated funding from the Skilling Australians Fund, and how much has been funded from other vocational Education portfolio programs?**

- a. **Provide a year-by-year breakdown of the funding that has been redirected from unallocated funding from the Skilling Australians Fund**

- b. What other vocational Education portfolio programs have been used to fund this measure? Provide a year-by-year breakdown of the funding reallocated from each of those other vocational Education portfolio programs.

\$525.3 million has been allocated to the Skills Package. This comprises:

- \$54.5 million in new Budget funding;
- \$463.0 million redirected from Skilling Australians Fund; and
- \$7.8 million redirected from the Commonwealth Scholarships Program for South Australia.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
SAF underspend redirection	134.8	106.0	110.9	111.3	0.0	463.0
Redirected scholarship funding	4.2	2.5	1.1	—	—	7.8
Additional (new) funds						54.5
Total						525.3

13. The Skills Package refers to \$135.4 million being spent over 4 years to build an enhanced approach to skills development.

- How much money is budgeted for establishing a National Skills Commission, year by year
- How much money is budgeted for piloting Skills organisations, year by year
- How much money is budgeted for the National Careers Institute, year by year
- An explanation of why the Portfolio allocation for each of those measures does not sum to \$134.4

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a	National Skills Commission (NSC) (administered)	—	4.065	3.985	3.700	4.065	15.815
	NSC (departmental)	—	8.074	8.136	8.027	8.260	32.497
	NSC total	—	12.139	12.121	11.727	12.325	48.312
b	Pilot Skills Organisations (administered only)	—	11.930	12.898	9.820	7.039	41.687
c	National Careers Institute (NCI) (administered)	—	1.429	5.940	6.077	5.955	19.401
	NCI (capital)	—	5.745	—	—	—	5.745
	NCI (departmental)	—	2.751	2.770	2.789	2.808	11.118
	NCI total	—	9.925	8.71	8.866	8.763	36.264
	VET Information Strategy (VIS) (administered)	—	1.606	1.638	0.963	0.877	5.084
	VIS (departmental)	—	0.319	0.322	0.190	0.192	1.023
	VIS Total	—	1.925	1.960	1.153	1.069	6.107
d	Total	—	35.919	35.689	31.566	29.196	132.370

d continued. As per page 69 of Budget Paper 2, the “Enhanced approach to Skills Development” sums to \$132.4 million.

As per page 56–57 of the Department of Education and Training Budget Statements, these measures sum to \$81.987 million, which is administered funding only. The difference is \$50.383 million, which is for capital and departmental operational costs (as per the table above).

14. The Skills Package refers to \$67.5 million being spent over five years from 2018-19 to trial 10 national training hubs.

a. How much money is budget for the hubs, year by year

b. An explanation of why the Portfolio allocation for the measure does not sum to \$67.4 million and where the additional funding is located in the Budget.

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a	Industry Training Hubs (Hubs) (administered)	—	1.282	12.818	12.818	14.818	41.736
	Hubs (capital)	—	0.187	0.760	—	—	0.947
	Hubs (departmental)	—	0.376	2.535	2.394	2.570	7.875
	Hubs total	—	1.845	16.113	15.212	17.388	50.558

b The sum of this measure over the Forward Estimates is \$50.558 million. The figure on page 13 of the PBS also includes an additional \$17 million, which is subject to a further announcement by Government.

In addition, as per page 56 of the Department of Education and Training Budget Statements, this measure sums to \$41.736 million, which is administered funding only. The difference is \$8.822 million, which is for capital and departmental operational costs (as per the table above).

15. The Skills Package refers to \$62.4 million over four years from 2019-20 to expand second chance learning in LLN and Digital skills and 4 Indigenous delivery pilots.
- How much money is budgeted for the for second chance learning, year by year
 - How much money is budgeted for the 4 Indigenous delivery projects, year by year
 - An explanation of why the Portfolio allocation for the measure does not sum to \$62.4 million and where the additional funding is located in the Budget.

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a	Foundation Language, Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy Skills (LLND) (administered)	—	7.139	14.283	14.283	14.283	49.988
	LLND (departmental)	—	0.737	0.742	0.539	0.456	2.474
	LLND total	—	7.876	15.025	14.822	14.739	52.462
b	Foundation Language, Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy Skills – Indigenous pilot (LLND Indigenous) (administered)	—	1.622	3.290	3.336	—	8.248
	LLND Indigenous (departmental)	—	0.513	0.465	0.685	—	1.663
	LLND Indigenous total	—	2.135	3.755	4.021	—	9.911
c	LLND total	—	10.011	18.780	18.843	14.739	62.373

c continued. The sum of these measures over the Forward Estimates is \$62.373 million (rounded up to \$62.4 million) (refer page 12 of the Department of Education and Training Budget Statements)—sum of the LLND (\$52.5 mil) and LLND Indigenous (\$9.9 mil) measures.

In addition, as per page 56 of the Department of Education and Training Budget Statements, these measures sum to \$58.236 million, which is administered funding only. The difference is \$4.137 million, which is for departmental operational costs (as per the table above).

16. The Skills Package refers to \$200.2 million over four years from 2019-20 (and \$147.5 million in 2023-14) for a new Additional Identified Skills Shortage Payment

- a. How much money is budgeted for the initiative, year by year
- b. Please identify where that money is allocated across each year and where the funding for each year of the allocation has come from
- c. Please outline the changes in the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program as a consequence of 'simplifying and streamlining', by each category of incentive, how the funding for each category of incentive has changed, the number of incentives to be supported in each category, year by year

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a & b	Additional Identified Skills Shortage (AISS) Payment (administered)	—	1.112	18.689	49.484	86.498	155.783
	AISS (capital)	—	0.508	-	-	-	0.508
	AISS total	—	1.620	18.689	49.484	86.498	156.291
	Simplified and streamlined incentives for Australian Apprentices (IAA) (administered)	—	-	1.893	15.363	25.511	42.767
	IAA (capital)	—	1.191	-	-	-	1.191
	IAA total	—	1.191	1.893	15.363	25.511	43.958
	Total	—	2.811	20.582	64.847	112.009	200.249

b continued. The package as a whole is offset against the saves and additional expenditure identified in question 12

c. A table outlining the changes to employer incentives under the new, streamlined *Incentives for Australian Apprenticeships* (IAA) program is provided below. Eligible employers will be able to claim incentives under the new payment structure for apprentices commencing on or after 1 July 2020. Employers claiming incentives for an apprentice who commenced prior to 1 July 2020 will continue to receive payments under the existing Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program (AAIP) payment structure for that apprentice.

Previous incentive (AAIP)	How streamlined/simplified (IAA)
'National Skills Needs List' (NSNL), 'Priority AAIP', and 'other' categories	Merged into a single category for the base incentives (\$1,500 commencement, \$2,500 completion). Employers are eligible as long as their apprentice is new; if their apprentice is in an NSNL or Priority occupation, they are eligible even if the apprentice is an existing employee.
Eligibility for the base incentives	Extended to Diploma and Advanced Diploma apprentices, not just those undertaking a Certificate III or IV.

Previous incentive (AAIP)	How streamlined/simplified (IAA)
Payment amounts for employers of part-time apprentices	Increased to match the payments for full-time apprentices, eliminating the distinction between full-time and part-time across all categories.
Rural and Regional Skills Shortage commencement incentive and the Australian School-based Apprenticeships (ASbA) commencement and retention incentives	<p>Merged into a single 'Target Groups' category.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rural and Regional Skills Shortage commencement incentive will reduce from \$1,000 to \$750, but a \$750 completion incentive will be added, a net gain of \$500 for this cohort. The \$750 ASbA retention incentive will change to a completion incentive, to encourage employers to retain their school-aged apprentices beyond the 12 weeks required to claim the retention incentive. ASbAs undertaking a Certificate II will no longer be eligible for this incentive, however they will still be able to claim the Certificate II Target Groups incentives.
Nominated Equity Groups commencement incentive	Increased from \$1,250 to \$1,500 , and split into a \$750 commencement incentive and a \$750 completion incentive.
Group Training Organisation (GTO) Certificate II completion incentive	Reduced from \$1,000 to \$750 but there will be no net loss in payments for GTOs due to the Target Groups incentives increasing by \$250 .
Support for employers of ASbAs undertaking a Certificate II	Additional \$1,500 commencement incentive introduced, to ensure employers of ASbAs undertaking a Certificate II are not disadvantaged by no longer being able to claim both the Nominated Equity Groups commencement incentive and the ASbA commencement and retention incentives.
Support for Adult Australian Apprentices (SAAA) incentive	Unchanged.
Mature Aged Worker commencement and completion incentives	Unchanged.
Declared Drought Area commencement (\$1,500) and completion (\$1,500) incentives	Discontinued. While the Incentive is ongoing, in June 2014 the Department of Agriculture ceased issuing Exceptional Circumstances Certificates. As such it is not possible for an employer to meet the eligibility criteria to claim this incentive.
Living Away From Home Allowance	Unchanged.
Disabled Australian Apprentice Wage Support	Unchanged.
Off-the-job Tutorial, Mentor and Interpreter Assistance	Unchanged.
Minimum total incentives: \$4,000 (Certificate III and above) \$1,250 (Certificate II) Maximum total incentives:	<p>Minimum total incentives: \$4,000 (Certificate III and above) – unchanged \$1,500 (Certificate II) – increase by \$250 Maximum total incentives: \$11,000 (Certificate III and above) – increase by \$500</p>

Previous incentive (AAIP)	How streamlined/simplified (IAA)
\$10,500 (Certificate III and above)	\$3,750 (Certificate II) – unchanged
\$3,750 (Certificate II)	

d To be included on the list of Additional Identified Skills Support incentives occupations:

- The occupation is currently in national skills shortage as determined by the Department of Jobs and Small Business skills shortage research; and
- The occupation has an Australian Apprenticeship as the main pathway through which skilled workers enter the occupation; and
- The occupation is assessed as facing a potential shortage of qualified workers over the next five years.

The top ten occupations, ranked according to the total number of Australian Apprenticeship commencements in the occupation, were selected for this incentive.

For the ten occupations selected, a phased response rate was applied to projected commencements over the forward estimates period. The response rate has been phased to take into account adjustment periods in taking on new apprentices and ensuring adequate training capacity. The response rate was based on response rates under the former Apprentice Kickstart Program.

17. **The Skills Package refers to \$34.2 million in 2019-20 to further support the six signatory states and territories to the SAF.**

- How much funding is going to each of the signatories, year by year.**
- Where this measure is located in the Budget Papers**

The additional \$34.2 million funding for SAF into 2019-20 is referenced on page 13 of the *Education and Training Portfolio Budget Statements 2019-20* and is included in the figures in the table on page 35 of *Budget Paper No. 3*. The \$34.2 million is allocated for one year only (2019–20). The breakdown per jurisdiction, is as follows:

State	NSW	WA		SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
\$ million	20.3	6.6		4.3	1.3	1.1	0.6	34.2

18. **The Skills Package refers to \$20.1 million over four years from 2019-20 to better identify emerging skills needs.**
- How much money is budgeted for this this initiative, year by year?**
 - An explanation of why the Portfolio allocation for the measure does not sum to \$20.1 million, and where the additional funding is located in the Budget.**

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a	Jobs and Education Data Infrastructure (JEDI) (departmental)	—	1.312	0.201	-	-	1.503
	JEDI	—	1.591	0.201	-	-	1.792
	Unique Student Identifier (USI) (capital)	—	1.015	2.787	0.787	0.534	5.123
	USI (departmental)	—	0.958	2.800	4.006	2.938	10.702
	USI total	—	1.973	5.587	4.793	3.472	15.825
	Tertiary Learning Repository (TLR) (capital)	—	1.886	-	-	-	1.886
	TLR (departmental)	—	0.279	0.067	0.102	0.138	0.586
	TLR total	—	2.165	0.067	0.102	0.138	2.472
	Total	—	5.729	5.855	4.895	3.610	20.089

b. The sum of these measures over the Forward Estimates is \$20.089 million (refer page 13 of the Department of Education and Training Budget Statements (PBS))—sum of the USI (\$15.8 mil), TLR (\$2.2 mil) and JEDI (\$1.8 mil) measures. The \$2.2 million for the referred to on page 13 of the PBS is only for 2019–20 and does not include \$0.272 mil from 2020–21 to 2022–23.

19. **The Skills Package refers to \$8.5 million over 4 years from 2019-20 going to 400 training scholarships.**
- How much money is budgeted for this this initiative, year by year?**
 - An explanation of why the Portfolio allocation for the measure does not sum to \$8.5 million and where the additional funding is located in the Budget.**

	SPENDS (\$m)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
a	Commonwealth Scholarships (400) (administered only)	—	2.882	2.648	2.648	-	8.178
	NRL VET (administered only)	—	0.350	-	-	-	0.350
	Total for this bundle of measures	—	3.232	2.648	2.648	-	8.528

21. **Provide answers to any outstanding Questions on Notice.**

As at 4 April 2019, 196 QoN had been provided to the committee secretariat.