



Response to Questions on Notice
JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT
Australian Government Funding for schools and Indigenous Health—
Auditor-General's reports

No. 18 (2017–18), Monitoring the Impact of Australian Government School Funding; and
No. 50 (2017-18), Primary Healthcare Grants under Indigenous Australians' Health Program

Australian National Audit Office

GENERAL COMMENTS

The Students First Support Fund was established by the department during negotiations between the Australian Government, the Associations of Independent Schools and the Catholic Education Commissions on school funding arrangements in 2013. The fund provided \$165 million over four years (school years 2014 to 2017) as implementation funding to 16 non-government representative bodies (NGRBs).

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question 1 (Hansard p. 10)

Mr HILL: And seven of the 16 bodies did not report funding allocations or budgets. So for seven of the 16 bodies, there were no reports, no evidence of allocation and no evidence that the Department had any records as to what happened to the money?

Dr Favre: Yes.

Mr HILL: Do you know what proportion of the \$165 million those seven bodies represent?

Answer

29 per cent.

Seven non-government representative bodies failed to report their funding allocations or budgets for at least one of the school years 2014, 2015, 2016 (the reporting for 2017 was not available at the time of the audit). The total funding not accounted for was \$46,935,825. This represents 29 per cent of total funding received by all NGRBs for the four years (\$164,668,000).