

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0312_15

Senator Wright asked on 4 June 2014 , Hansard page 90

Question

Additional funding to schools

Senator WRIGHT: The department gave me a table on 16 May at the Senate inquiry into school funding, the select committee inquiry, which showed the additional Commonwealth funding over 2014 to 2017. At that time, the document did not show figures for the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia. I have flagged with the department that I would like them to bring an updated version of that table with the full additionality of Commonwealth funding for every state and territory. Do you have that with you today? Mr Cook: 'Additionality' is actually defined—it is with the national education reform agreement—as money under Gonski. These three states were not signatories to that. I am sorry to be technical, but the term 'additionality' actually does have a definition in the national education reform agreement. Senator WRIGHT: I used the wrong term, right? Mr Cook: Just to help me with what you are seeking, we can get this information to you quickly. Senator WRIGHT: The request was not able to be met, or those columns were not available because, as we know— Mr Cook: They were not signatories; that is right. Senator WRIGHT: The Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia would not sign up to the agreement that the other states signed up for. We want to have a sense of how things look across all the states and territories, not leaving them out. So whatever the term is that I should have used, do you understand what I am asking for? Mr Cook: Yes. Ms Paul: It was probably small 'a' additionality rather than large 'A' additionality. Senator WRIGHT: That may well be. Maybe it did have a capital A or maybe it did not. Ms Paul: I do not know. Senator WRIGHT: Do you have that here today? Were you able to understand that that was actually what I asked for? Ms Paul: We can certainly run through. Because \$1.2 billion was put back into the funding and those states now are going to receive more funding than they were going to— Senator WRIGHT: We know what the other states were going to put in. We want to know what the amount is from the Commonwealth and from the states that is actually going to go to schools. Do you have that table with you? Mr Cook: The table we gave you in the select committee is not the total additional funding because it will not include enrolment growth or indexation growth. It just talked about additionality. The additional funding is broken up into three things. It is broken up into additionality, which is based on a transition agreement by the previous government, indexation and enrolment growth. I do not have solely the additionality figures for those three states with me, so we will certainly take it on notice. Ms Paul: Would you like the totals? Senator WRIGHT: I would certainly like to be able to compare apples with apples and oranges with oranges. So if you could. Mr Cook: We will take that on notice. Senator WRIGHT: How quickly do you think we could have that, because we have been waiting quite a while for that and we do want to be able to have a look across and see? Mr Cook: Sure. We should be able to get that to you in the next 24 hours, I imagine.

Answer

As at Budget 2014–15 the additionality funding for the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia over the calendar years 2014 to 2017 are in the table below.

		Commonwealth Additionality Funding Post Transition				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	4 Year Total
		\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
QLD	G	77.48	172.17	276.16	395.45	921.26
WA	G	12.91	30.99	53.62	80.15	177.66
NT	G	5.21	11.03	17.49	24.76	58.49

Note: These states are not signatories to the NERA.