

## Senate Committee: Education and Employment

### QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

#### Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

#### Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000667

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 31 May 2017, Proof Hansard page 132

#### **HEPPP**

#### **Question**

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: What growth does the department predict for the demand-driven HEPPP loading over the forwards?

Mr English: The growth is embedded in the budget numbers published for the HEPPP program. So the funding we will actually pay the universities from 2018 moves from \$143 billion to \$147.9 million in 2019—these are calendar years—to \$153.1 million in 2020 to \$158.9 million in 2021. The growth across those years is the combination of both indexation and student numbers feeding into that.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: I am asking: can you break that down for me?

Mr English: I will take that on notice.

Mr Learmonth: What sort of breakdown?

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: The growth is both indexation and student numbers.

Mr Learmonth: Do you mean those two drivers?

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Yes. So what are we anticipating in growth in student numbers and what indexation has been applied?

Mr Learmonth: Whether we can provide the indexation figure, because it is budget parameter, I am not sure. What we could do is give you the anticipated growth in student numbers. Would that work?

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: That would help but it would also help to understand which indexation figure you are applying.

Mr Learmonth: We will answer as best we can.

#### **Answer**

In the 2017–18 Budget, funding for the demand driven loading component of the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP) was estimated using the following:

- the low SES student demand driven loading will be \$985 in the 2018 calendar year, and indexed into the future using the method specified at Part 5–6 of the *Higher Education Support Act (2003)*
- the estimates of the number of students from low SES backgrounds was based on the recent relative rates of growth of low SES compared to all undergraduate students over time, and use projections of student load provided by universities in April 2017.