

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000724

Senator Carr, Kim asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 60

Cost associated with preparation and promotion of higher education reforms

Question

Senator KIM CARR: It may be that there are a number of these you will want to take on notice. But I am interested to know the full cost incurred by the Commonwealth associated with the preparation and promotion of the higher education package.

Ms Paul: Over 2014 it would mainly be—

Senator KIM CARR: The whole cost, from when the government announced it to date.

Ms Paul: I think we can do that. We have certainly offered some of it before, and we will put it all together for you.

Senator KIM CARR: Sure. And I am interested to know of consultancies, additional staff employed, travel, consultations, lobbying—

Ms Paul: I can assure you that there certainly were no additional staff employed. Otherwise we will certainly give you those costs.

Senator KIM CARR: I want to know the promotion costs of the package, and the preparation costs as well.

Ms Paul: Promotion costs are different; that is a subset.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes, I know.

Ms Paul: Do you want things beyond that?

Senator KIM CARR: I want beyond that. If you could itemise it, please, so that I can get an idea of what it has actually cost to date.

Ms Paul: Sure. Mostly, the costs would have been either for that campaign or for the travel and participation of those working group members in 2014.

Answer

Please refer to SQ15-000755.