

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. SQ15-000755

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

Also refer to previous hearing Question No: SQ14-002507, SQ14-002503, SQ15-000256, SQ15-000277, SQ15-000282, SQ15-000026, SQ15-000010, SQ15-00014, SQ15-00017, SQ15-00019, SQ15-00028, SQ15-00053, SQ15-00251

Government's higher education package

Question

Can you inform the Committee about the costs incurred to the Commonwealth associated with preparation and promotion of the Government's higher education package? Please provide details of each expense, and also the total expenditure.

This needs to include:

- Advertising and other promotions
- Working groups
- Consultancies
- Any additional staff employed
- Travel
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Lobbying
- Any other expenses

Answer

The Commonwealth undertook three separate activities in preparing and promoting the Government's higher education package:

- The Legislation and Financing Working Group
- The Quality, Deregulation and Information Working Group
- The Higher Education Information campaign.

The costs associated with these activities are:

The Legislation and Financing Working Group;

The Legislation and Financing Working Group met on six occasions. Expenditure to support the group was as follows:

Expenses	Total
Flights and taxis	\$7,476.93
Accommodation	\$0.00
Catering	\$921.75
Venue hire	\$3,651.88
TOTAL	\$12,050.56

The Quality, Deregulation and Information Working Group;

The Quality, Deregulation and Information Working Group met on three occasions between June and July 2014. Expenditure to support the group was as follows:

Expenses	Total
Travel	\$5,478
Accommodation	\$384
Catering	\$92
TOTAL	\$5,954

The Higher Education Information campaign

The 2014-15 higher education information campaign was developed to better inform Australians about the current higher education system. It provided information about government support and funding available to students undertaking higher education and addressed misconceptions about the Government's proposed higher education reforms.

The Higher Education Information campaign incurred a cost of \$8,869,317 broken down as follows:

Expenses	Total
Media buy	\$6,076,851
Creative development	\$1,873,363
Website	\$246
Research	\$823,606
Contact Centre	Nil
Other	\$95,251
TOTAL	\$8,869,317