

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000878

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Needs based funding model (SQ15-000430)

Question

QON SQ15-000430 states:

The fixed proportion of the SRS that has been allocated to each state and territory under the Australian Government's foreshadowed redistribution policy relates to the level of Commonwealth funding reached in 2018.

- a. What is the 'foreshadowed redistribution policy'? Please describe it precisely?
- b. Is this what has been used as determine funding levels beyond the 2017 school year, as outlined on p30 of Budget paper 3?
- c. Will it mean the commonwealth will meet a flat level of the SRS in each state and territory from 2018? What per cent of the SRS is that under the 'foreshadowed redistribution policy'?
- d. Will there be needs based loadings? Will they be paid on top of this? Or will they be included in the flat rate of SRS?
- e. Will a flat rate of Commonwealth SRS contribution be applied to both government and non-government schools? Will it be the same or different? What will the rate of Commonwealth contribution be as a per cent SRS be for each sector?
- f. Will there be requirements for state government to grow or maintain funding under the 'redistribution policy'?
- g. Will there any guarantee that all schools will be consistently resourced across states and territories? Or will this be left up to the states to determine?
- h. Can you confirm – in line with the figures indicated on p30 of Budget Paper 3 – that funding will fall between 2017-18 and 2018-19 under the 'redistribution policy':
 - i. Tas Gov schools from \$179.5m to \$175.9 – a drop of \$3.6m?
 - ii. NT Gov schools from \$153.7 to \$134.7 – a drop of \$19m?
- i. Please provide a version of the table from SQ15-000430 that shows the SRS that will be reached by non-government schools in 2017 in each state and territory, broken down by catholic and independent sector.
- j. Please provide a similar table broken down by state/territory and sector that shows the 'Total Commonwealth funding % total SRS' for 2018 based on the funding allocation for each state published on p30 of Budget Paper 3.

Answer

- a. State and territory allocations from the 2018 school year are indicative only, and will be informed by formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector. As part of these indicative allocations, the redistribution policy estimates a fairer proportion of Commonwealth funds for each government system – 16.8 per cent of each jurisdiction’s own Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) – removing any advantage or disadvantage resulting from arrangements negotiated with the previous government.
- b. Yes. State and territory allocations from the 2018 school year are indicative only, and will be informed by formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- c. No. State and territory allocations from the 2018 school year are indicative only, and will be informed by formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- d. Funding arrangements from 2018 will be considered by the Government in the lead-up to 2018 and be subject to formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- e. For the purposes of the Budget, the redistribution policy has only been applied to the government sector. Funding arrangements from 2018 will be considered by the Government in the lead-up to 2018 and be subject to formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- f/g. Funding arrangements from 2018, and associated obligations, will be considered by the Government in the lead-up to 2018 and be subject to formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- h. State and territory allocations from the 2018 school year are indicative only, and will be informed by formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories, and the non-government sector.
- i. Projected Commonwealth recurrent funding as at the 2015–16 Budget as a proportion of the projected total SRS for 2017 is as follows:

	Total Commonwealth recurrent funding as % total SRS (2017)	
	Catholic	Independent
NSW	73.2	73.7
VIC	75.1	75.7
QLD	73.2	72.1
SA	71.8	68.9
WA	66.7	64.8
TAS	70.7	67.4
ACT	74.5	115.7
NT	64.9	65.2

j. Funding arrangements from 2018 will be considered by the Government in the lead-up to 2018 and be subject to formal negotiations between the Commonwealth, the states and territories and the non-government sector.