

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for Schools

DEST Question No. E642_05

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

On 11 March 2004, The Minister for Education, Science and Training announced in a media release titled "\$1.5 Billion Boost to Help Build and Upgrade Our Children's Schools" \$17 million over four years in capital grants for independent and Catholic schools in remote areas of the Northern Territory. How is this funding being spent?

Answer:

\$17 Million Additional Capital Funding for Non Government Schools in the Northern Territory

The Government will provide an additional \$17 million over the 2005-08 quadrennium for capital grants funding for non-government schools, including those in isolated areas and communities in the Northern Territory, in part to compensate for the high building costs in the Territory.

The Minister has agreed that the \$17m be provided to the Northern Territory joint Block Grant Authority (BGA) and administered by the BGA in a similar fashion to the \$860,000 already being provided each year for Northern Territory non-government schools under the Capital Grants Programme. The BGA will assess applications for funding from the additional funds and provide the Government with a schedule of recommended projects towards the middle of this year.