

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance to individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E733_05

Senator Harradine asked on 16 February 2005, EWRE Hansard page 75.

Question:

Is it possible to prove that sex education has an impact on the abortion rate, when the only evidence you would have is whether there is a reduction in the number of teenage mothers?

Answer:

Sex Education and the effect on the abortion rate

The Department of Education, Science and Training does not have any information on sex education and its effect on the abortion rate. It is a matter for the Department of Health and Ageing. As agreed during Additional Estimates Hearings, the Department has consulted with the Department of Health and Ageing and they have advised that they have also been asked this question in Additional Estimates Hearings and they will be providing a response in this context.