

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: ARC

DEST Question No. E843_06

Senator Stephens asked on 15 February 2006, EWRE Hansard page 10.

Question:

Senator STEPHENS—Has the minister changed the recommendations for funding of projects—for example, the level of funding that might go to a project, what was applied for and what was actually granted?

Prof. Hoj—We consider about 5,000 grant proposals per annum. For me to give you a blanket answer I would have to be very certain of the facts, so we would prefer to take that one on notice.

Senator STEPHENS—In the course of your everyday consideration would that be an unusual occurrence?

Prof. Hoj—What would be an unusual—

Senator STEPHENS—To change the grant: what was approved for the grant as to what was proposed.

Prof. Hoj—Would it be unusual for the minister to change the amount of funding?

Senator STEPHENS—Yes, or the conditions of the grant in some way.

Prof. Hoj—Extremely unusual, I would say, based on past practice.

Senator STEPHENS—If you can take that on notice and advice if that has occurred, that would be helpful.

Prof. Hoj—Yes, I will.

Answer:

The ARC has provided the following response.

ARC Funding Proposals

In cases in which the ARC recommended funding for proposals but the Minister at the time declined to accept those recommendations, no funding was provided for the proposals.