

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.2 - New Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E902_06

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

Agency Additional Estimates Statements – Tools For Your Trade, additional funding \$3,940,000 in 2005-06.

- (a) What are the reasons for this increase in funding?
- (b) If as a result of increased demand, how many extra apprentices?
- (c) How many apprentices does DEST expect to be eligible for the toolkit in each year across the forward estimates?
- (d) How does this compare to original projections?

Answer:

Tools For Your Trade – Additional Funding

- (a) The increase in funding is based on more accurate costings of the delivery model. MAS Administration Services Ltd is contracted to deliver the initiative. The contractor must accurately determine the eligibility of New Apprentices under the initiative and administer a voucher delivery mechanism for the tool kits including the registration and payment of tool suppliers.
- (b) The increase in funding is not a result of an increase in the number of eligible New Apprentices.
- (c) The Department expects 35,029 New Apprentices to be eligible for a tool kit in 2006-07, 35,978 New Apprentices in 2007-08 and 36,926 New Apprentices in 2008-09.
- (d) These figures represent the original projected numbers.