

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0868_11

Senator Polley asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 39.

Question

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR CHAPLAIN COSTS

Senator POLLEY—Have there been any discussions between Commonwealth and relevant state departments in relation to sharing that cost burden? Ms Wall—Not specifically. My understanding is some states already contribute. Senator POLLEY—Could you identify those states and take that on notice for us? Ms Wall—Yes.

Answer

State government contributions to chaplaincy services in government schools is limited.

Queensland is the only jurisdiction which provides an ongoing contribution, with \$0.9 million per annum from 2007 – 2013. The Queensland Government *Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Funding Program* targets schools low socio-economic communities and provides \$5,000 / annum for schools with enrolments between 100 – 409 students, and \$10,000 / annum for schools with 410+ enrolments. 128 schools are currently funded under the program.

Of the remaining states, only Western Australia provides any funding for school chaplaincy services. The recently introduced *Pastoral Critical Incident Response Chaplains* project provides \$10 million over four years commencing in 2011, for 83 chaplains on standby to provide emotional guidance to students and staff following traumatic incidents. The program does not provide ongoing chaplaincy services in schools.