

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1012\_13**

**Senator Back asked on 14 February 2013, Hansard page 106**

**Question**

**Youth Engagement Budget**

Senator BACK: ..... The budgetary youth engagement decreases from \$11.4 million this year, to \$8.9 million next year and \$7.5 million in the following year. Are those figures accurate and, if so, what is the explanation for the declining budget allocation? Mr Fernando: The reason for the difference is that there were some youth centre projects that were part of this particular appropriation until they were moved to another appropriation. Mr Davies: It was the construction of youth centres as a 2010 election commitment Mr Fernando: That is right. Mr Davies: Basically, the construction program is concluding so those funds run out of the forward estimates period. Senator BACK: Is there any expected reduction in your staffing levels at the Office for Youth commensurate with these changes, or it all can be taken up with capital costs? Mr Davies: I cannot recall exactly. I can take that on notice but my recollection is that the departmental resources that came with that ran out as well.

**Answer**

Based on the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2012-13, the Youth Engagement Appropriation under Outcome 2.11 is as follows:

2012-13	\$11.419 million
2013-14	\$8.939 million
2014-15	\$7.486 million

The decline in the budget appropriation relates to progressive completion of youth projects, relating to construction of three youth centres and replacement of an FM radio antenna, that were 2010 Federal election commitments.

No funding for staffing came with the youth projects.