

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No: E041_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

- a) What is the purpose of the Higher Education Structural Reform Fund?
- b) What kind of Collaboration and rationalization are envisaged to be funded?
- c) Does the Department foresee, and the Government intend to bring about, any institutional amalgamations, using this fund to cover associated costs, or otherwise?

Answer:

Higher Education Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund

- a) A new Collaboration and Structural Reform programme (CASR) is to be established to provide competitive funds to foster collaboration between universities and other universities and between universities and other education and training providers, business and industry, community groups and other organisations.
 - CASR will also fund innovative reforms in course design and delivery.
 - CASR will absorb the existing Higher Education Innovation Programme (HEIP), including any continuing commitments.
- b) Key priorities for the CASR programme will be for collaborative projects:
 - between two or more higher education institutions in course provision;
 - between higher education institutions and vocational education and training provider/s or in areas related to teaching and learning;
 - between universities and their communities, particularly regional communities; and
 - between higher education institutions and business/employers or professional associations.
- c) No.