

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E144_05

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

Question:

The following questions refer to the tables of individual schools funding published on DEST's website:

1. For each school that is Funding Maintained, what is the difference for each year between their SES amount and their actual amount, per capita, and total?
2. What are the per capita amounts used for 2004? (and why is there not a direct correlation between SES and amount per capita)?
3. Can the Minister supply a table of actual expenditure by school, based on what they would have got in 2001 under ERI, and what they get when implementation of SES is complete, showing increase broken down by enrolment and SES effect.
4. What is the basis for 2004 per capita figures?
5. Which figures in the table represent the first year in which the SES model is fully implemented?
6. Can the Minister supply the complete list of assumptions and formulae used to calculate the actual funding of a school receiving SES funding such that the total funding can be calculated from the SES score and the enrolment data of the school.

Answer:

1. Please see attached spreadsheet.
2. Please see attached spreadsheet.

The 2004 per capita rates are estimated amounts until the 2004 Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) amounts become available later this year. Actual SES per capita amounts paid to schools in 2001, 2002 and 2003 reflect schools' year 2000 per capita entitlements plus 25%, 50% and 75% respectively of their increased entitlements under the SES model.

3. Please see attached spreadsheet.
4. The 2004 per capita figures are based on schools' SES scores translated into a percentage of the estimated 2004 AGSRC amounts.
5. 2004 figures represent the first year in which the SES model is fully implemented.

6. There are two assumptions used in the responses to Questions 1 and 3. These are:
1. estimated 2004 primary and secondary AGSRC amounts of \$6444 and \$8534 respectively; and
 2. estimated 2004 enrolments based on the Department's latest projections.

The formulae used in calculating total funding for a school in any one year are set out below:

For SES-funded schools that are not New Schools

(Primary Students x (Primary Per Capita ERI amount + Per Capita Increase)) plus
(Secondary Students x (Secondary Per Capita ERI amount + Per Capita Increase))

For Funding Maintained Schools

(Primary Students x (Primary Per Capita ERI amount)) plus
(Secondary Students x (Secondary Per Capita ERI amount))

For New Schools

(Primary Students x (Primary Per Capita SES amount)) plus
(Secondary Students x (Secondary Per Capita SES amount))

The 2003 ERI Rates are provided in the attached spreadsheet.