

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

#### **DEST Question No. E341\_06**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

So that means that, every year, universities – and all other agencies and entities to which WCI indices apply – are having imposed on them roughly a 2% “productivity” dividend – is that right?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Safety Net Adjustment*

Each year, the funding available to WCI-based agencies is indexed by the relevant WCI. The total funding available to any agency will, however, depend on a number of factors, including any new or revised funding agreed by the Government.

The scale of any productivity improvements universities and agencies (to which WCI indices apply) may need to achieve, will depend on the degree to which wage increases (agreed in their workplace agreements) exceed funding available through indexation and any other source.