

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. E400_06

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

Question:

- a) Has the Department a view on the educational impact of the HEWRRs?
- b) What is the legislative status of the HEWRRs?
- c) If no institution on Table A meets the HEWRR requirements what happens to the budgeted CGS funding that will be forgone?

Answer:

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements

- a) The Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements will enable our universities to attract and keep the best staff and reward them in accordance with their skills.
- b) The *Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Workplace Relations Requirements) Bill 2005* amending s.33-15 (1) (b) (c) of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, which refers to the requirements, was introduced into the House of Representatives on 23 June 2006. The requirements will be guidelines (disallowable instruments) in Chapter 7 of the Guidelines for the Commonwealth Grant Scheme under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.
- c) If no institution on Table A met the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements, which must be met as well as the National Governance Protocols to qualify for the increase in assistance funding under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme, the relevant funds would be returned to consolidated revenue.