

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1

**Output Group:** 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

#### **DEST Question No. E315\_07**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

With regards to additional funding for students at risk of dropping out of school. The government has announced additional funding for non-government schools where students are at very high risk of dropping out.

1. What initiatives will be taken for similar schools in the government sector?

#### **Answer:**

*Students at risk of dropping out of school in the government sector*

Students in the government sector can access Youth Pathways and the Partnership Outreach Education Model (POEM).

Youth Pathways is targeted at young people aged 13 to 19 years who are most at risk of not making a successful transition through to completion of year 12 (or its equivalent) and ultimately, to further education, training or employment and active participation in the community.

Youth Pathways has funding around \$24 million in 2006 to assist at least 17,000 young people. From 1 January 2007, Youth Pathways will receive funding of around \$37 million per annum to assist at least 25,500 young people per year.

Partnership Outreach Education Model (POEM) projects provide an education and personal development programme targeting young people (aged 13 to 19 years) who are disconnected from mainstream schooling. POEM offers flexible accredited education and training options delivered in supported community settings. POEM is underpinned by partnerships and positive relationships between young people and their families, community service agencies, schools, governments at all levels and business. POEM is currently operating as a pilot programme and the pilot will run until December 2006.

A new POEM programme will commence from January 2007. A procurements process will be conducted later this year.