

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome

DEST Question No. E118_08

Senator Crossin asked on 31 May 2007, EWRE Hansard page 84

Question:

Senator CROSSIN—In the past, in recognition that there would not be tutors in remote communities, up until this year, I understand you gave the Northern Territory government the equivalent of the number of students who did not reach the year 3 benchmark times the amount of the voucher. Is that going to be the same or will that change?

Ms Paul—That does not ring a bell, to be honest.

Mr Greer—Certainly, the reading voucher methodology there does not. But in relation to the Northern Territory and other jurisdictions, we do that in relation to in-class tuition under ITAS.

Senator CROSSIN—No, this was the voucher, the \$73 you got as a parent to go off and buy a tutor.

Ms Paul—I think you are referring to the pilot, which was in the year before.

Senator CROSSIN—It was only a pilot.

CHAIR—It was in 2005.

Ms Paul—I recollect that we needed to do something in the Territory. I probably need to check; there may be some this year, but the relevant people are not with me now.

Answer:

Reading Assistance Voucher programme

In 2006 the Northern Territory Department of Education, Employment and Training received an up-front payment to deliver tuition under the pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative. The up-front payment was only a proportion of the estimated total voucher funding.

For the Year 3 Reading Assistance Voucher (RAV) programme in 2007, funding for the Northern Territory is the same as for all other jurisdictions. Reimbursement to all tutors for actual tuition provided is managed by the RAV National Programme Manager.