

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome

DEST Question No. E166_08

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

At page 41 of the DEST PBS under Administered expenses an item Superannuation Benefits for Aboriginal Tutor Assistance Scheme, with an amount of only \$5000 for 2006-07 and 2007-08. However I can find no further mention of this item in the PBS or indeed in Budget Paper 2.

Can you provide some explanation and detail on this item?

Answer:

Superannuation Benefits for Aboriginal Tutor Assistance Scheme

Pages 33 and 36 of the 2007-08 Education, Science and Training Portfolio Budget Statements and page 343 of 2005-06 DEST Annual Report relate to the Superannuation Benefits for Aboriginal Tutor Assistance Scheme (ATAS) special account.

The ATAS special account contains entitlements and interest set aside for former tutors, contracted and paid under the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS), in respect of previously unpaid *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act, 1992* entitlements.

The amount of \$5,000 at page 41 of the DEST PBS represents the expected annual expenditure to former tutors. The amount of \$35,000 in Administered receipts at pages 33 and 36 of the DEST PBS represents the estimated interest earned for the financial year on the balance held in the ATAS special account.