

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 2

DEEWR Question No. EW676_09

Senator Mason asked on 4 June 2008, EEWR Hansard page 69.

Question

Music. Count Us In

Senator MASON—How about 'Music. Count Us In', based on that Canadian model? What has happened to that program? I am sure you will remember that one, Ms Paul.

Ms Paul—It rings more of a bell, yes.

Ms Cross—There was a 'Music. Count Us In' program that ran from 7 June to 30 August 2007, that we funded for \$300,000.

Senator MASON—What has happened to ongoing funding there?

Ms Paul—It sounds like it was only for a month; is that right?

Ms Cross—It was a one-off initiative.

Ms Paul—It was more of an event, I think. That certainly does ring a bell.

Senator MASON—Was it just a one-off?

Answer

The Music Council of Australia received funding of \$300,000 to run *Music. Count Us In* in 2007, as part of the 'Music. Play for Life' campaign. The centrepiece of this initiative was a song, written by John Foreman, which was simultaneously performed by children in primary and high schools all over Australia on Thursday, 30 August 2007. 850 schools participated in this event.

Funding of \$330,000 under the Quality Outcomes Program – Other, and \$150,000 under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Program, is being provided to the Music Council of Australia to run *Music. Count Us In* again in 2008. In addition to the simultaneously performed song, the 2008 program will also include a teacher professional development component.