

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E456_04

Senator Carr asked on 6 November 2003

Question:

Refers to DEST Question E419_03

The Department has previously estimated that in 2001-02 19.5 per cent of HECS debt was considered doubtful debt?

Can you provide estimates of what proportion or quantum of debt will be considered doubtful under the Government's package?

Answer:

HECS Doubtful debt

An estimate of the amount of HECS debt unlikely to be recovered under the Government's higher education reform package, referred to as the HECS doubtful debt estimate, was prepared by the Australian Government Actuary (AGA) and included in the Cabinet submission on the reform proposals. As such, it constitutes Cabinet-in-Confidence information and can not be released.