

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E563_06 - Final

Senator Wong asked on 2 November 2005, EWRE Hansard page 62 and provided in writing

Question:

- a. I would like the dates on which those meetings occurred and on which the determinations were made in relation to a particular tranche, and the dates on which that advice was then transmitted to the minister's office.
- b. When did a brief of the tranche of schools approved by each SAAP meeting reach the Minister?
- c. When did the Minister return the signed brief to DEST?
- d. When did DEST prepare letters for each MP and Senator?
- e. When did DEST write to schools to inform them of the outcome?
- f. When did DEST post the details on its website?

Please provide all relevant dates.

Answer:

Investing in Our Schools - Dates of State-based Assessment Advisory Panels, determinations about each tranche of recommendations and provision of advice to minister's office

a., b. & c. All Government school applications are assessed by State based Assessment Advisory Panels (SAAPs). The length of time required for a SAAP Meeting is dependent upon how many applications there are to assess and the complexity of the applications being assessed. For example, smaller jurisdictions with lower numbers of applications like SA and NT met for one day, whereas the biggest state NSW met for three days.

Meetings for Round One were held in each state and territory as follows:

ACT	Canberra	22 July 2005
Northern Territory	Darwin	28 July 2005
Tasmania	Hobart	3 August 2005
Queensland	Brisbane	8 & 25 August 2005
Victoria	Melbourne	22 August and 14 September 2005
South Australia	Adelaide	1 September 2005
Western Australia	Perth	19 September 2005
New South Wales	Sydney	6 & 20 September and 12 October 2005

After the final meeting in each State or Territory, one brief was prepared for the Minister recommending funding to be approved according to the final ranked list arising out of SAAP members' ratings and discussion. These briefs were sent to the Minister's Office and signed by the Minister on the following dates:

	Sent to MO by DEST	Signed by the Minister
ACT	18 August-2005	18 August 2005
Northern Territory	25 August 2005	5 September 2005
Tasmania	12 September 2005	12 September 2005
Queensland	12 September 2005	12 September 2005
South Australia	12 September 2005	12 September 2005
Victoria	28 September 2005	30 September 2005
Western Australia	28 September 2005	30 September 2005
New South Wales	19 October 2005	19 October 2005

d. The SAAP briefings also contained letters to all MPs and Duty Senators for the signature of the Minister.

e. Successful grant letters to government school community applicants were sent by DEST as follows:

ACT	14 September 2005
Northern Territory	7 October 2005
Tasmania	10 October 2005
South Australia	13 October 2005
Queensland	14 October 2005
Victoria	28 October 2005
Western Australia	28 October 2005
New South Wales	2 November 2005

All unsuccessful, deferred and non-compliant letters were sent to government school community applicants on 27 October 2005.

f. DEST posted the 2005 government school approved grants for Round One (grants of \$50,000 or less) on its website as follows:

ACT	28 September 2005
Northern Territory	28 September 2005
Tasmania	28 September 2005
Queensland	28 September 2005
South Australia	28 September 2005
Victoria	5 October 2005
Western Australia	5 October 2005
New South Wales	21 October 2005