

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 - Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E648_07

Senator Stephens provided in writing.

Question:

On 5 September *The Australian* reported that Australian universities will get more than \$50 million from the Federal Government to help implement workplace changes and become more efficient.

- a) Is this figure listed in the budget papers? If so, where?
- b) Please provide a table of the allocation of the funds – which university, purpose of funds, etc. *The Australian* reported 47 projects under the funding arrangement.

Answer:

Workplace Productivity Programme

- a) In *Our Universities; Backing Australia's Future*, the Australian Government announced the introduction of the Workplace Productivity Programme. Funding for the Programme from 2006 to 2008 is \$83.3 million (\$27.2m in 2006, \$27.8m in 2007, and \$28.3m in 2008) for projects that improve the efficiency, productivity and performance of universities. The 2006/07 Portfolio Budget Statement contains a reference to the Workplace Productivity Programme on page 63.
- b) A list of the 48 projects approved by the Minister for Education, Science and Training to receive funding under round 1 of the Workplace Productivity Programme (one additional project for which the Minister requested further information was approved after the announcement of round 1 funding) is available at the following website:

<http://www.dest.gov.au/wpp/>