SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome ***2***

DEEWR Question No. **EW425_10**

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

Per Capita Spending on Indigenous Education in the Northern Territory

What is the per capita combined spending from the Commonwealth and Northern Territory on Indigenous education in the Northern Territory? How does this compare with other states and territories?

Answer

This information is not available until mid 2010 when the Indigenous Expenditure Report is expected to be published.

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) made a commitment in December 2007 to report transparently on expenditure on services for Indigenous people. This included both Indigenous specific expenditure and the Indigenous share of mainstream expenditure at the Commonwealth and State and Territory level, including for school education.

Under the auspice of COAG an Indigenous Expenditure Report Steering Committee has been established to develop a national framework for collecting and reporting government expenditure on services to Indigenous Australians.

Education funding to indigenous school students is currently provided through a combination of targeted and mainstream expenditure. It is intended that the Indigenous Expenditure Report will encompass both sets of expenditure.