

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

17 October – 18 October 2012

Question: SBT 1789

Topic: National Schools Specific Purpose Payment

Written: Transferred from Finance – 8 November 2012

Senator MASON asked:

1789. Budget Paper No 3, page 57, 2012/2013 provides estimates for the National Schools Specific Purpose Payment for government schools. The Intergovernmental Agreement defines the growth factor for the government schools component of the National Schools SPP as the product of: the growth in average government schools recurrent cost; and the growth in full-time equivalent enrolment in government schools.

- a. Provide over the forward estimates figures of the NSSP that is a product of the growth in full time equivalent enrolments in government schools. Please provide the value of this growth for each year across the forward estimates based on the 2012/13 Budget figures.
- b. Provide over the forward estimates details of the value of growth (supplementation) that is a product of growth in average government schools recurrent cost. Please provide this information for each year across the forward estimates based on the 2012/13 estimates.
- c. Exclude from the estimates for (a) and (b) above, National Partnership agreements with finite lives.

Answer:

1789.

- a. The National Schools Specific Purpose Payment (SPP) is indexed by a growth factor calculated by the product of growth in Average Government Schools Recurrent Costs, a calculation which is driven by state government expenditure on schools and growth in full-time equivalent student enrolments. This calculation is detailed in the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations* as agreed to by all States and Territories.

The National Schools SPP funding (the government schools component) across the forward estimates at the 2012-13 Budget is detailed below:

National Schools SPP Funding Estimates – government schools component

| \$million | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2012-13 Budget | 4004.69 | 4284.07 | 4602.69 | 4938.99 |

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- b. The (dollar) growth in National Schools SPP funding across the forward estimates is detailed below:

National Schools SPP Funding Growth – government schools component

| \$million | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2012-13 Budget | 248.89 | 279.38 | 318.62 | 336.3 |

- c. National Schools SPP funding does not include National Partnership Payments.