

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000020

Senator Carr, Kim asked on 25 February 2015, Hansard page 122

Question

RIS figure

Senator KIM CARR: Okay. When I look at the RIS that was published last year for the higher education bill, on page 111, under '7.2 no change option', the department has estimated that: ... the uncapping of student places in 2009 and subsequent enrolment growth are estimated to cost an additional \$7.6 billion in CGS outlays by government over five years from 2013-14.

Mr Griew: That remains our estimate. I do not have the RIS with me but that figure—

Senator KIM CARR: You are familiar with that estimate?

Mr Griew: I am familiar with that estimate, yes.

Senator KIM CARR: And you are saying that that remains your view?

Mr Griew: I will take on notice whether there is any refinement to that, because, as you have just noted in the previous exchange, we have twice-yearly updates from the universities on their projections of likely enrolments, but that figure is familiar to me as the figure that we have previously used.

Senator KIM CARR: It has been used several times, I know. Are you able to provide me with a funding profile of that estimate? How do you reach that conclusion year by year?

Mr Griew: Certainly not this minute, but I can take that on notice.

Answer

As at Budget 2014-15, for the period 2013-14 to 2017-18, the \$7.6 billion was the cost of additional Commonwealth supported places, under the demand driven system, which is stated in the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for the Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014.

For the period 2014-15 to 2018-19, as at the 2014-15 Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, the revised cost is \$7.9 billion.

2014-15 \$m	2015-16 \$m	2016-17 \$m	2017-18 \$m	2018-19 \$m	Total over 5 years \$m
1,391	1,478	1,586	1,698	1,747	7,900