

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education Question No. ED0054_14
Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question **Office for Learning and Teaching**

For the Office for Learning and Teaching please provide:

- the 2012-13 updated budget outcome for the Office for Learning and Teaching, and for all the programs it administers
- Current forward estimates for 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
- What the breakdown of these estimates is between administered and Departmental/OLT costs?
- Please provide an update on the status of all of your grants programs, including when the schedule for opening, closing, announcing and contracting grants projects. This should include information on commissioned projects
- What regulatory roles does the Office for Learning and Teaching currently perform.
- How has the OLT's workload and responsibilities changed since the publication of the Review of Higher Education regulation?

Answer

- The updated budget outcome for the Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (PELTHE) programme in 2012–13 is \$12 863 246. The Enhancing the Training of Mathematics and Science Teachers (ETMST) programme commenced 2013–2014.
- Current forward estimates as per the Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook (PEFO) for 2013–14 to 2016–17 for PELTHE are represented in Table 1.

Table 1

| Financial Year | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Estimates Administered | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| PELTHE | 14.6 | 14.4 | 14.8 | 15.3 |

Current forward estimates as per PEFO for 2013–14 to 2016–17 for ETMST are represented in Table 2.

Table 2

| Financial Year | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Estimates | | | | |
| Administered | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| ETMST | 1.9 | 3.9 | 4 | 4.2 |

- c. The figures in Table 1 and Table 2 are forward estimates for administered costs only. There is no departmental funding in PELTHE or ETMST.
- d. The Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) has 238 active grant projects including commissioned work.
The schedule of dates for the opening and closing of grants programmes are in Table 3 below.

Table 3

| Innovation and Development Grants and Seed Grants | |
|--|-------------------|
| Round 1 opening date | 19 September 2013 |
| Round 1 closing date | 8 November 2013 |
| Round 2 opening date | 5 May 2014 |
| Round 2 closing date | 16 June 2014 |
| Commissioned Projects | |
| Opening date | 25 April 2014 |
| Closing date | 6 June 2014 |
| Extension Grants | |
| Round 1 opening date | 21 February 2014 |
| Round 1 closing date | 4 April 2014 |
| Round 2 opening date | 25 July 2014 |
| Round 2 closing date | 5 September 2014 |

The Minister is responsible for approving the grants and commissioned work on advice from the OLT's Strategic Advisory Committee. The announcement and contracting of projects will be undertaken after approval of the successful projects.

- e. The OLT does not have a regulatory role.
- f. The workload and responsibilities of the OLT have not changed since the publication of the Review of Higher Education Regulation.