

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014

#### Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0217\_14

Senator McKenzie asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 93

#### Question

#### Creative Young Stars - feedback from local members

CHAIR: I have questions on the same program, which last estimates I put to the minister for arts. I am glad I found now the right place to ask them. When Creative Young Stars was developed, MPs were surveyed that this was a good type of program to have—and I can see why. Senator O'Neill was in the lower House and she says it was a good program, so I take her word for it. My questions back in July were that it was developed in response to feedback received from local members of parliament. My question was: which local members of parliament were surveyed? Which were the local members of parliament that gave that feedback to develop this program? Mr Cook: I am not aware of that. We can take it on notice and come back to you. Ms Paul: Please do because it does not ring particular bells. CHAIR: In addition to that, how many local members of parliament were surveyed? How did you get the feedback that this was the type of program that they wanted? How was that information collected? How was the information about available funding and the setting up of local communities communicated to local members of parliament? I do remember at the time this was announced that part of the application process required a local selection committee organised by each electorate office. But at the time that the program was rolling out, some were more organised than others. I had some questions at the time. You are nodding, so I am assuming you got similar kind of feedback at the time. Mr Hehir: That is correct. There was an option to have a local selection committee or the Department of Education could undertake the assessment. pg 94 CHAIR: Did the MP make that decision for his or her electorate? Mr Hehir: That is correct. CHAIR: Out of the number of MPs we have, who went with the department making the assessment and who set up their own local selection committee? Mr Hehir: I will have to take that on notice. I have got 55 electorates. CHAIR: So 55 electorates chose which one? Mr Cook: Two actually have formed a committee. CHAIR: So the majority went with the department doing the work? Mr Cook: It would seem so. CHAIR: Could you also do that by electorate. Mr Cook: We can provide that information.

#### Answer

No survey of Members of Parliament (MPs) was undertaken. Three MPs offered their feedback about the programme to the Ministers then responsible.

Information about the Creative Young Stars programme was made available to MPs through written correspondence and department-hosted information sessions for MPs at Parliament House. Advice to MPs included detail about the grants available, advice about setting up of Local Selection Committees and assessing applications, and advice about how grant payments would be managed. Ongoing support was also

provided by the department throughout Round One via a dedicated email address for MPs.

In Round One of the Creative Young Stars programme, 55 Members of Parliament chose to establish a Local Selection Committee in their electorate, however four were ultimately unable to convene a committee due to unforeseen circumstances.

The 51 electorates in which Members of Parliament established Local Selection Committees and assessed Creative Young Stars applications in their electorates were Aston, Adelaide, Ballarat, Bass, Batman, Bowman, Bradfield, Canberra, Canning, Casey, Charlton, Chisholm, Cowper, Curtin, Deakin, Denison, Dunkley, Forde, Fremantle, Hasluck, Higgins, Holt, Hotham, Isaacs, Kingsford Smith, Kooyong, Lalor, Lilley, Macarthur, MacKellar, McEwen, McMillan, McPherson, Melbourne Ports, Moncrieff, Moreton, O'Connor, Page, Parkes, Parramatta, Petrie, Port Adelaide, Robertson, Ryan, Scullin, Sturt, Throsby, Wannon, Watson, Wide Bay and Wills.

For all remaining 99 electorates, the Department of Education undertook the assessment of applications on behalf of Members of Parliament.