

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0224_14

Senator Mason asked on 5 June 2013, Hansard page 68

Question

National Plan for School Improvement

Senator MASON: Last week the Department of Finance and Deregulation suggested in estimates that the total amount of funding provided across the forward estimates for the National Plan for School Improvement is \$2.98 billion, comprising \$2.1 billion in redirections. This suggests that \$880 million in additional funding has been set aside across the forward estimates for the national plan. That is my calculation. In light of that, could you tell the committee of the \$880 million in additional funding identified by Finance? Could you tell the committee the value of enrolment growth and indexation supplementation for each year across the forward estimates, in dollar terms? Mr Cook: We would have to take that on notice. Senator MASON: You cannot do that? Mr Cook: Not right now, no. We will take it on notice. I do not have that information available to me. In terms of indexation, you would be aware of what the Prime Minister made a commitment to for the Commonwealth, which was the 4.7 per cent indexation rate. Senator MASON: I would not have thought it was that complicated. Mr Cook: I do not have the enrolment projections in front of me, so I will have to take that on notice. Senator MASON: Could you have it tomorrow? Mr Cook: I will have to check with my staff; we will make our best endeavours. Ms Paul: We can give it a go. Senator MASON: Thanks, Ms Paul—and a breakdown of the \$880 million also, excluding growth as a result of enrolment or indexation. Ms Paul: Sure. Senator MASON: Also funding for each state and territory and school sector—government, Catholic and independent—in each state. You will probably have to take that on notice. Ms Paul: Yes, we will.

Answer

It is not possible to calculate the figures asked. The pool of funding identified in the budget of \$54 billion includes the enrolment growth and indexation growth. These factors were built into the budget and forward estimates already. The \$800 million is merely a net result of a number of movements and it is not correct to seek to attribute enrolment growth or indexation changes to these figures.