

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

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0225_14

Senator Mason asked on 5 June 2013, Hansard page 69

Question

National Plan for School Improvement - straight line transition

Senator MASON: All right. If it is a straight-line transition, why is there only \$2.98 billion, of which only \$800 million is new money, budgeted over the forward estimates—that is, the first 3½ years of a six-year period? It should be more, shouldn't it? Ms Paul: I am not sure. We might have to check. Senator MASON: If it is \$2.98 billion over 3½ years, that is not right. Because \$9.8 billion divided by six is—I have my calculator. Hold on. Ten divided by six equals 1.66, and 1.66 times 3½ is \$5.8 billion, and on the table is \$2.98 billion. So what is going on there? Ms Paul: We might just need to check that. Senator MASON: Mr Cook, do you know? Mr Cook: As Ms Paul said, we will take it on notice and look into that. Senator MASON: It does not sound to me like— Ms Paul: We can probably get that quickly to you. Senator MASON: You can get back to me quickly on that? Righto.

Answer

The transition pathway towards the SRS means that on a year by year basis, an increasing level of additional funding is provided.

Not all states have a strict linear trajectory to 95 per cent SRS. To resolve budgetary pressures, some states negotiated an approach to the SRS which applied higher levels of additional funding towards the end of the transition period.