

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0240\_15**

**Senator O'Neill provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Universal Access**

1 The Budget Papers show that the Government has allocated an undisclosed sum of funding in a contingency fund for 2015-16 for Universal Access, pending the outcome of the review. Has the Department set aside enough to cover the continuation of its contribution for a full year at the current level? 2 Can the department guarantee that the Universal Access Partnership will continue in 2015?

**Answer**

Any decision concerning arrangements beyond the current National Partnership is subject to the findings of the current review of the National Partnership and to negotiation with the states and territories.