

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

#### Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research & International

#### Department of Education Question No. ED0324\_15

Senator Carr asked on 5 June 2014 , Hansard page 111

#### Question

##### *Indexation rates*

Senator KIM CARR: What are the changes in indexation arrangements for all the research programs across the department? Mr Griew: This goes back to the 3.8 per cent efficiency dividend introduced in the 2013 budget. Senator KIM CARR: No, I am interested in the indexation rates specifically, not the efficiency dividend. Mr Griew: So the change in indexation? We do not have that by research program. Senator KIM CARR: The Australian Academy of Science tells me it is 0.76 per cent in 2014-15, 0.386 per cent in 2015-16 and 6.4 per cent in 2016-17. Are those figures correct? Mr Griew: Could you just read those again? Senator KIM CARR: In the 2013-14 budget the effect is minus 0.76 per cent, in 2014-15 it is minus 3.86 per cent and in 2015-16 it is minus 6.44 per cent. Is that correct? Mr Griew: That does not sound right, partly because the dates would be wrong. Senator KIM CARR: Why don't you have a look at it and I will come back to you— Mr Griew: This must be the efficiency dividend that was announced in the 2013-14 budget by the previous government. Senator KIM CARR: Can you go back and have a look at these numbers and tell me what the numbers are that you would agree with? I am sure the Academy of Science documents are readily available to you. I would like to know by program what it means. Ms Paul: It sounds like it is the impact of the efficiency dividend proposed by the former government—because of the dates. Senator KIM CARR: I am actually interested in the changes in the indexation rates, not the efficiency dividend as such. Mr Griew: That will impact from 2015-16. Senator KIM CARR: Tell me what they are and what the effect is across the research programs, please. Ms Paul: That is fine.

#### Answer

The total funding profile for the Department's research programmes is provided in the following table:

Research Programmes (Current funding profile)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Australian Postgraduate Awards	276.137	282.804	289.468
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships	22.201	22.504	23.045
Research Training Scheme	676.705	651.278	632.184
Joint Research Engagement	356.083	361.123	369.798
Research Infrastructure Block Grants	239.383	242.771	248.603
Sustainable Research Excellence	185.416	239.433	288.985
Higher Education Research Promotion Program	4.653	4.755	4.879
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,760.578</b>	<b>1,804.669</b>	<b>1,856.961</b>

The estimated adjustments to these programmes resulting from the indexation measure are provided in the following table:

Research Programmes (adjustments resulting from indexation change)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Australian Postgraduate Awards	0.000	-0.839	-2.274
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships	0.000	-0.067	-0.181
Research Training Scheme	0.000	-1.832	-4.967
Joint Research Engagement	0.000	-1.072	-2.905
Research Infrastructure Block Grants	0.000	-0.720	-1.953
Sustainable Research Excellence	0.000	-0.840	-2.269
Higher Education Research Promotion Program	0.000	-0.028	-0.048
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-5.398</b>	<b>-14.597</b>