

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000363

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 102

Funding for Tasmanian schools

Question

Senator O'NEILL: Is the department aware of claims made in the media and by the Australian Education Union in Tasmania that only \$3.8 million of the \$20 million in additional funding for Tasmanian schools under the NERA—otherwise known as the Gonski money—will actually reach classrooms this year?

Mr Cook: I am not aware of these claims. That is in the media. Again, I have asked Tasmania to provide me with the information as to how they have expended the Commonwealth funding.

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Senator O'NEILL: How much money has gone to Tasmania from the federal government?

Mr Cook: From the Commonwealth, from 2014 to 2017, for Tasmania, in 2014-15, it was \$350.1 million.

Senator O'NEILL: Sorry?

Mr Cook: It is \$350.1 million. It might be easier in calendar years, because I think I have calendar years here as well.

Senator O'NEILL: My understanding is that there was a scheduled \$20 million in additional funding to Tasmania.

Mr Cook: All I have here is total funding for Tasmania. I am sorry. I am happy to take that on notice. But the total funding, I can tell you, for Tasmania is: in 2014, it was \$332.3 million; in 2015, \$357.2 million; in 2016, \$383.3 million; and, in 2017, as part of that 2014 to 2017 period, \$410.2 million. Those out years, in 2016 and 2017, of course, are dependent on enrolment growth and those sort of things, as they normally are.

Answer

As at the 2015–16 Budget, the level of additional funding for Tasmania will be \$101 million over 2014 to 2017, with \$20 million estimated for 2015.