

## Senate Committee: Education and Employment

### QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

#### Outcome: Schools and Youth

#### Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000406

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 133

#### *Resource funding for teaching of coding*

#### Question

Mr Cook: As I think I indicated, states and territories have a view around this. The Commonwealth is giving \$69.8 billion, I think it is, to states and territories over the forward estimates. They would be choosing to use some of that money for the purpose of training teachers. We have a number of programs in place—a number of those programs have been in place for many years—to support things like summer schools and scientists going in and supporting teachers. Those programs continue.

Senator O'NEILL: How much is allocated to those programs?

Mr Cook: I could go for another 30 minutes on those, or I am happy to take it on notice.

There is \$10 million, for example, around Science Connections. There is \$6.5 million around Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools. There is \$1.7 million for advice and support for teachers of science and school laboratory technicians. There is \$500,000 for advice for teachers of mathematics. I am happy to take this on notice, because I could go for a while yet.

#### Answer

The Government, through the Department of Education and Training funds a number of programmes that support teachers in the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in schools as follows:

- Mathematics and Science Participation (2012–2016), which includes:
  - \$6.5 million for Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools
  - \$5.0 million for Science Connections (Primary Connections and Science by Doing)
  - \$1.7 million for Advice for Teachers of Science and School Laboratory Technicians
  - \$0.5 million for Advice for Teachers of Mathematics
  - \$0.6 million for Mathematics and Science Illustrations of Practice.
- Maintaining funding for Science Connections (2014–2018), which includes:
  - \$ 5.0 million for Primary Connections and Science by Doing (making a total of \$10.0 million for Science Connections from 2012–2018).
- Restoring the focus on STEM, which includes:
  - \$7.4 million for Mathematics by inquiry
  - \$3.5 million for Coding across the curriculum
  - \$0.5 million for a P-TECH trial
  - \$0.6 million for STEM summer schools.