

No.	Senator	Hansard Page (Official Hansard)	Subject	Question
SQ16-000757	Lines	138	Communications Campaign	<p>Ms Gleeson: There were a number of other RFQ processes running at the same time.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What is an RFQ process?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: A request for quote.</p> <p>Senator LINES: But this is your creative stuff. What else was running?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: If I could just clarify that at the end of the testing period is not when the department receives the report from the company that is providing that information. It actually takes them four to six weeks to compile it.</p> <p>Senator LINES: So, at best, you got the report in late February or early March?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: I would have to take that on notice and provide the information to you.</p>
SQ16-000758	Lines	139	RFQ Progress	<p>Senator LINES: How long does it take to progress?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: From February until when were you progressing?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: We were progressing the development work in terms of—</p> <p>Senator LINES: When did you stop progressing it?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have those details.</p> <p>Senator LINES: You do not know? You knew what you were doing with the RFQ. Surely you can give us some estimate of when you stopped doing work on that.</p> <p>CHAIR: Ms Gleeson took the answer on notice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I am still pursuing questions, thank you, Senator McKenzie.</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: May I take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator LINES: I am asking you to give me a ballpark of when you finished—</p>

SQ16-000759	Lines	140	RFQ Progress	<p>Senator LINES: What has happened with that work?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: They were being evaluated by the department.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Up until when?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: I would have to take that on notice, because there were multiple RFQs that were being evaluated.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Were you still evaluating these RFQs four weeks ago?</p> <p>Ms Gleeson: I would like to take that on notice.</p>
SQ16-000760	Lines	143	RFQ decision	<p>Senator LINES: So you were working on the implementation date right up until when you saw it in the budget papers?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I am sure up until the decision was taken by government. We are not going to go around a backdoor means for you to find out at what point the Expenditure Review Committee decision was taken by the cabinet. ...</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Cabinet made a decision and surely you can advise the committee the date on which cabinet made a decision.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I will happily take it on notice and see if there is any precedent for disclosing when cabinet decisions about the budget are made. I certainly cannot think of one, not sure if you can.</p>

SQ16-000761	Collins	144	Funding provided to Victorian	<p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: As a rough guess, what proportion of the funds provided to Victorian government schools would be Commonwealth funds?</p> <p>Mr Cook: That would be available on the My School website at a school level.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Yes, but I am wondering at a system level.</p> <p>Mr Cook: At a system level, I would have to take on notice because we would have to break down the funding. I am happy to take that on notice. ...</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: So you will come back to me on notice about what proportion of the Victorian government schools—</p> <p>Mr Cook: If I look at the national figure, in terms of funding to government schools, about 18 per cent of that at the moment comes from the Commonwealth. Back four or five years ago, I think it would have been, when this was focused, it was a much lower percentage. It would have been probably about 12 per cent or 13 per cent. Victoria, of course, depending on whatever the model was, might have had slightly less or slightly more, because every state or territory is different.</p> <p>Senator JACINTA COLLINS: That is right.</p> <p>Mr Cook: We can take it on notice. Would you like to know for that approximate period? We would have to project back five years, I think.</p>
SQ16-000762	Carr	147	HELP Debt	<p>Dr Bruniges: With all the recommendations in that audit report, the department has agreed to implement those. Coming new to the position, I have done that response to the National Audit Office, and I know each and every one of those recommendations we have agreed to implement.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When did you receive this report?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I would have to take the exact date on notice, the final—</p>
SQ16-000763	Carr, Kim	150	funding for Deakin University's Warrnambool Campus	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Where will I find this allocation of \$14 million dollars in the budget papers?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: The decision of government, for which I am not confirming values, figures or otherwise, is budgeted for.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Where will I find that in the budget paper?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: It is budgeted for.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is not the question. Where will I find it in the budget papers?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I will take that on notice.</p>

SQ16-000764	Carr	151	Announcement of new expenditure during caretaker	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Do the caretaker conventions go to the question of contracts, or do they go to the question of just announcements?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: No, they go to the question—a new contract cannot be signed during caretaker period.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But you can announce new expenditure? Can you announce new expenditure?</p> <p>Dr Bruniges: I would have to take that on notice.</p>
SQ16-000765	Carr	154	Enrolment in Flagships	<p>Senator KIM CARR: So you are saying that a 20 per cent maximum would be the proposition that government would put in place?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Would that be 20 per cent of courses or 20 per cent of enrolments?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: It would be 20 per cent of student load.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Student load—that is individuals?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How do you see that in terms of numbers? How many people would that be across the system?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I would have to take that on notice.</p>
SQ16-000766	Carr	157	HEPPP Savings	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The international educational strategy.</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: The budget had not yet come out, Senator.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see. There are savings of \$208 million from the program overall. Have I got that correct?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: No, Senator: \$152 million.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The \$208 million would be the total savings over the life of the government? That would be correct, wouldn't it?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I am not familiar with the figure. I would have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: In previous budgets there have been reductions as well, haven't there?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I will have to take that on notice. I don't know.</p>

SQ16-000767	Carr	159	Investment in Higher Education Research	<p>Mr English: The financial year profile for the research funding does show what I might describe as a lumpy profile, but in fact the underlying calendar-year profile, which as you know is actually how we fund the universities, has a much smoother profile. It was an artefact of the way measures were put into the budget last year around the transfer of funding from the Sustainable Research Excellence fund to the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you give me a table on a calendar-year basis?</p> <p>Mr English: I will have to take that on notice, but yes, we can.</p>
SQ16-000768	Carr	162	Cost of partial fee deregulation	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The discussions we had in 2014-15 indicated that there was a cost associated with full fee deregulation. Do you have any assessment of the current costs of partial fee deregulation?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I think I would need to take that on notice, Senator.</p>
SQ16-000769	Carr	164	HELP Thresholds	<p>Senator KIM CARR: ... I do have some questions that I would like to pursue which are more of a technical nature with regard to the loans program and the thresholds. The library tells me that the number of additional graduates who would be caught by lowering the threshold to \$42,000, which was in the paper, would be 200,000. Are you able to advise me as to whether or not that is a reasonable estimate?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I am not sure what that would be based on. Is it—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The Parliamentary Library has provided this on ATO statistics. Ms Borthwick: That would be the income 'gap', if you like, between \$42,000 and the current \$54,000. I think that is what that figure is saying, that there may be 200,000—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes. I could give you the millions and all the rest of it, but I am short-handing it here.</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: It would depend, obviously, on how many of them are enrolled at university.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes. Would you agree that 200,000 is a reasonable estimate?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I do not know. I would have to take that on notice.</p>

SQ16-000770	Carr	165	HELP Thresholds	<p>Senator KIM CARR: You have no idea how many extra people would be affected by a reduction of the threshold to \$42,000?</p> <p>Dr Hart: We do not have that information with us. We would have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You do not have it with you or you do not have it?</p> <p>Dr Hart: I would have to check whether we do have it, in fact.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am advised that most of those would be younger taxpayers—57 per cent would be aged 29 or younger. Would you agree with that? Ms Borthwick: I do not know. We will have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What numbers have you done to give the government confidence in the \$42,000 figure?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: The government is not expressing confidence in the \$42,000 figure. I think the government identified that that figure had been proposed by others.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Who was that? You are relying on Grattan, are you?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Grattan is one of many commentators in this space.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Who else has offered a figure of \$42,000?</p>
SQ16-000771	Carr	166	HECS Repayments	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I am interested to know how many professionals would be earning an income of \$42,000. What sort of percentage would that be?</p> <p>Ms Borthwick: I do not know. We would have to take that on notice.</p>

SQ16-000772	Carr	171	University of Newcastle proposal for medical school campus at Gosford	<p>Senator Birmingham: The University of Newcastle has had discussions with me.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Have you had discussions about supporting that facility with any capital investment?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I would have to refresh my memory of the exact nature of that because there are a few different moving parts there. There are, I know, some capital proposals, but offhand I think, from memory, there are also some CSPs for medical positions that are capped that are proposed to be shifted. I would have to check as to exactly which components we might have been talking about.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Have you made any decisions to fund any of those elements that you just identified?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Again, I would have to take that on notice, given I was struggling to recall the different pieces and where each was at.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: At this point in time, there is no decision by government to put \$12.5 million into that project?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I would have to take on notice whether any components of decisions might have been made. "</p>
SQ16-000773	Reynolds	174	AIATSIS Staffing	<p>Senator REYNOLDS: That is wonderful. How many staff do you have, given the million-plus items that you have in the collection and all that work that you are doing?</p> <p>Mr Taylor: At the moment, about a hundred. I will take that on notice, but around about 140. With the benefit of the recent budget enhancement, the staff members will rise.</p>

SQ16-000774	Lines	185	Quality Support	<p>Senator LINES: So what is the quality support?</p> <p>Ms J Wilson: I will see if I have got someone who can answer that question. We have a range of money we use to provide support for quality in terms of services but we also provide a contribution to ACECQA for its regulatory responsibilities. We make a contribution and each of the states and territories make a contribution. We pay about half and the states split the difference between them so that is largely the component for our contribution to ACECQA.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What is the essential component? Ms J Wilson: I do not have that information with me on this spreadsheet but I can take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: The rest of the funds which are not for ACECQA, what are they for exactly?</p> <p>Mr Palmer: We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms J Wilson: I will have to get the breakdowns.</p>
-------------	-------	-----	-----------------	--