Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0222_14

Senator Ruston asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 97

Question

One Laptop Per Child

Senator RUSTON: Okay, my apologies. Let us start again. It is One Laptop Per Child and the response to Senator Mason in 2013 estimates was 22,500. How many have been delivered to date? Ms Bloor: I will have to take that on notice, Senator. Senator RUSTON: When you give that information back, I would be interested in— CHAIR: Can we try to get that tonight? Ms Bloor: Yes, Senator. CHAIR: Thank you. Senator RUSTON: In that process, how many have been delivered in total? I would like what they were and a rough idea of what the cost per computer was. Ms Bloor: It is a fixed unit. It is all the one thing.

Answer

One Laptop Per Child Australia Ltd (OLPCA) is an Australian private company registered as a charitable institution. The one-off grant (\$11.7 million GST exclusive) was to support the expansion of OLPCA's laptop initiative, which aims to support the learning opportunities of primary school children, particularly those in remote Australia, by providing children with a connected custom-designed laptop (XO Laptop) or tablet (XO Duo) as well as teacher training and support. As at 30 November 2013, the total number of laptops distributed was 9378. The total cost per computer is \$400, which includes a \$250 contribution by the Australian Government, a \$100 contribution by the school and a \$50 contribution from donations.