

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Reform & Support**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0724\_15**

**Senator Carr asked on 14 November 2014 , Hansard page 69**

**Question**

***Effect of repayments***

Senator KIM CARR: You did indicate before that you were concerned about people calculating the effect of repayments out to 2020. What will be the figure in 2020 for the minimum repayment floor? It is currently \$50,000. What is the equivalent. Mr Griew: I do not know; I will have to take that on notice. Senator KIM CARR: But you would be able to calculate that, wouldn't you? Mr Griew: It depends on a set of assumptions about, I think, average weekly earnings. I forget the exact index, but it depends on a set of assumptions about that. Senator KIM CARR: The government is proposing for us to reduce it, isn't it? Currently it is \$55,000 or thereabouts. Ms Paul: That is not what we were talking about. What Mr Griew was talking about earlier was that, whichever organisation had done that particular modelling—which I cannot remember—they had based their salary outcome on 2012 dollars. What you are talking about now is the HECS repayment threshold. Senator KIM CARR: That is right. Ms Paul: That is a different formula. Senator KIM CARR: But you can give me a figure for 2020, can't you? Ms Paul: I think we have just taken that on notice.

**Answer**

The Government does not release projections of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE).