

ABC Online - Education funding: Queensland schools set to lose billions in federal revenue, State Government says

By Matt Wordsworth – exclusive - Mon 20 Oct 2014, 10:07pm

Queensland schools are set to take a \$4 billion hit to their revenues over the next decade due to cuts announced in the federal budget in May, according to the state's education department.

Education Queensland's analysis, obtained by the ABC in a Right to Information request, revealed Education Minister John-Paul Langbroek was advised that over the 10 years from 2014, state schools would be \$1.66 billion worse off.

Non-government schools fared worse, with cuts totalling \$2.284 billion.

The revenue reduction formed part of \$80 billion in savings announced by the Federal Government in the areas of health and education.

Mr Langbroek said the cuts fell in the years beyond 2017 - in the next four-year funding agreement – and he hoped to negotiate a better deal.

"When it comes to the end of this funding arrangement, which we'll negotiate over the next 18 months or so, we'll make sure that we put up our hands for the share that Queensland schools and families deserve," he said.

The Education Queensland analysis also noted the axing of 10 Children and Family Centres (CFCs) in Indigenous communities around Queensland, such Doomadgee and Mornington Island, saving the Federal Government \$10 million a year.

"Withdrawing support for CFCs ... has the potential to represent to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community another example of funding removed from a successful program at a critical stage," the department's briefing note said.

Opposition treasury spokesman Curtis Pitt said Premier Campbell Newman had to do more to fight the budget cuts.

"We've seen nothing but an LNP protection racket," Mr Pitt said.

In May, Mr Newman railed against the cuts and called for a special Council of Australian Governments meeting, and reform of federal-state relations.

Five months later, Mr Newman said he had lobbied hard on education and health funding.

"Sadly, the Prime Minister has not come to the party," Mr Newman said on Monday.

"Queensland is more concerned about what happens in about three years' time.

"Other states have probably been hit a bit harder in the short term.

"But certainly we need to see, as part of the federation reform, long-term appropriate funding in

Difference in federal funding for state schools	Difference in federal funding for independent and Catholic schools
2015-16 0	\$24 million
2016-17 \$1 million	\$18 million
2017-18 \$-32 million	\$-25 million
2018-19 \$-67 million	\$-89 million
2019-20 \$-101 million	\$-136 million
2020-21 \$-165 million	\$-230 million
2021-22 \$-222 million	\$-317 million
2022-23 \$-285 million	\$-411 million
2023-24 \$-356 million	\$-516 million
2024-25 \$-436 million	\$-634 million

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