

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000901**

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing

***Student Mobility Programs - New Colombo Plan***

**Question**

Does the Department of Education and Training have a role in administration of the New Colombo Plan?

If so,

- What budget allocation is provided by the Department?
- What staff support is provided by the Department?
- What staff travel has been associated with the support/administration of this program in the years 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16?

**Answer**

Yes. The Department of Education and Training (Education) is responsible for the administration of the New Colombo Plan (NCP) in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). DFAT has overall responsibility for the program's policy development and strategic planning.

- The Australian Government initially committed administered funding of \$100 million over five years from 2013–14, with funding now ongoing. Education accesses the DFAT administered appropriation through a Drawing Rights instrument.
- A team of nine Education staff members work with DFAT in delivering the program.
- Since 2013–14, one Education staff member has attended two meetings a year in Adelaide with the contracted support service providers. On 28 April 2016 one Education staff member attended the opening of NCP Tasmania Alumni Chapter.