

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1  
**Output Group:** 1.1 – Funding for schools

#### **DEST Question No. E851\_04, E852\_04 & E853\_04**

Senator Carr tabled on 18 February 2004.

*Refers to DEST questions E419\_04 and E420\_04*

#### **Question:**

*Wilgie View Learning Centre*

In answer E419\_04, you inform the Committee that enrolments at Wilgie View Learning Centre in August 2003 were four students. These had declined in number from 8 in 2001.

What enrolments does this school have in 2004? If you do not know the enrolment level of this school, how are you otherwise monitoring it?

*Child Side School, WA*

What are the 2004 enrolments at Child Side School, WA?

On what basis (enrolment level) has the school been provided with the second tranche of its Establishment Grant for 2004? If its 2004 enrolments are below those reported at the 2003 census date, will there be a need to recoup Establishment Grant funds from the school?

On the basis of what enrolments have these two schools been funded for 2004?

If the 2004 enrolments at these schools are below August 2003 levels, will the schools be asked to repay the appropriate balance of recurrent grants, provided on the wrong basis?

What are the procedures for such a step, and what are the repayment terms?

#### **Answer:**

*Recurrent grants: very small schools*

*Wilgie View Learning Centre*

This school changed its name in 2003 to Spirit of Play Community Early Learning Centre. A Statement of School Enrolments dated 20 February 2004 was provided by the school with beginning of the year enrolments at 7.4 full time equivalent (FTE) students.

*Child Side School*

Child Side School's estimated General Recurrent Grant (GRG) entitlement for the 2004 programme year is currently based on the school's August 2003 census data. The school has 6.4 FTE students and these student numbers were used to calculate its estimated second year entitlement (ie \$250 per student) under the Establishment Grants Programme for 2004. The first payment (50% of the estimated entitlement) for 2004 was completed in January.

### *Overpayment situations*

Any school that has a reduction in enrolments between census periods is required to repay the overpayment. Overpayments are not declared until the full programme year's entitlement has been calculated based on the current year's Census enrolments. Once an overpayment has occurred, the client is informed in writing and given the option to repay the debt as a refund or alternatively to offset the overpayment against the next GRG payment.

For more detail see response to QON E850\_04.