

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0252_14

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

Level of funding

Is it the Department's understanding that the signatory jurisdictions to the NERA will allocate the level of funding they committed to in the bilateral agreements signed with the Commonwealth? Will the release of Commonwealth funds for signatory jurisdictions be conditional on those jurisdictions meeting the requirements of the bilateral agreements or associated Heads of Agreement agreements? Does the Government intend to fulfil its obligations and commitments entered into under the Heads of Agreement and Bilateral Agreements, including but not limited to the funding commitments contained therein? Can the department include in that table what, if any, quantum of funding each state and territory government is expected to allocate to school funding over the 6 years, broken down by year?

Answer

The Government expects states and territories to abide by funding commitments they have made.

The release of Commonwealth funds under the *Australian Education Act 2013* is not dependent on states or territories allocating a specified level of funding to schools.

The Government has committed to funding for 2013-2017 as shown in the answer to Question on Notice ED0387_14.