

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No. E060_04

Senator Crossin asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

What process will the Commonwealth undertake to identify areas as National Priorities? Can the Department supply details regarding the timeline for the review of National Priority areas and the process and terms of reference by which such a review would take place?

Answer:

National Priority areas

The Commonwealth has identified education and nursing as initial areas of National Priority. National priority places will also recognise existing places allocated for the education of Indigenous students. The Commonwealth may review these national priority areas from time to time, as appropriate.

National Priority areas for higher education will be identified on the basis of the Commonwealth's assessment of needs and priorities, in consultation with the States and Territories with regard to labour market needs.

Teaching and nursing were identified as the initial National Priority areas after extensive reviews by the Commonwealth, the Review of Teaching and Teacher Education and the Review of Nursing Education.