

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome:

Output Group: 2.4 – Higher Education Group

DEST Question No. E352_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Refers to DEST Question No E740_04

Question:

What are the reasons that their indices differ? I'll just take a few examples – for example, schools have high wage costs, don't they? Why are so many schools programs indexed by AGSRC while universities get what is now known as the HEIF? How does that conform to your principles?

And don't Indigenous Education programs such as the Strategic Initiatives program also have high wage costs? So why is that program indexed differently from other schools programs?

Answer:

Indexation

Programme resourcing decisions are a matter for Government. As noted in the answer to E351_06, not all programme expenditures fit into the WCI indexation arrangements and alternative, more suitable, indexes can be adopted in accordance with the Government's resourcing decisions.