

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013-2014**

Finance Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 1/1.1

**Topic:** MYEFO – Individual Measures – Agriculture, Australian Research Council, Social Services, Carbon Tax

**Senator:** Wong

**Question reference number:** F26

**Type of question:** Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 52-55, 25 February 2014

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 11 April 2014

**Number of pages:** 9

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** I just want to go to a few individual measures in MYEFO. Of the measures in MYEFO, can you please on notice give me a list of which require separate legislation over and above the appropriations bills? (*Refer to No.1 in Answer*).

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes.

**Senator WONG:** I assume you have not got that here.

**Mr Tune:** No, we do not.

**Senator WONG:** In relation to the measure reducing funding to the FAO, at page 117 in the agriculture portfolio, what is the amount remaining in that line item? (*Refer to No.2 in Answer*).

**Mr Tune:** I do not know. We might have it.

**Senator WONG:** You would probably have that.

**Ms Huxtable:** No. Sorry, we will have to take it on notice.

**Mr Tune:** DFAT will know the answer to that one too—sorry, Agriculture.

**Senator WONG:** No, I would like you to give me the answer. Is that all right?

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes, I have taken it on notice.

**Senator WONG:** Thank you. In relation to the measure on page 119, 'Legal Policy Reform and Advocacy Funding', what are the four legal assistance programs affected? (*Refer to No.3 in Answer*).

**Mr Tune:** We can probably find that out fairly quickly.

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes. I think I do have that somewhere, but I probably cannot lay my hands on it. If I find it we will come back to it; otherwise we will take it on notice.

**Senator WONG:** Thank you. How many funds remain in the Safer Suburbs Program—that is the measure on page 122? (*Refer to No.4 in Answer*).

**Mr Tune:** We will take that on notice.

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**Senator WONG:** Can you do the same then in the measure on page 127, 'Australian Research Council—redirection'? Tell me what amount of funding over the forwards remains in the ARC Discovery and ARC Linkage programs—

**Mr Tune:** Yes.

**Senator WONG:** and in the centre of excellence programs. That measure is on page 128. On the same page, what are the comprising programs which are affected by the \$2.3 million reduction in funding? *(Refer to No.5 in Answer)*.

....

**Senator WONG:** I do not have the details. Is it departmental funding?

**Mr Tune:** I think it is departmental. I will confirm it for you, but I think that is right.

**Senator WONG:** Thank you. On page 129, what are the programs in the Department of Education on that first measure there? *(Refer to No.6 in Answer)*.

**Ms Huxtable:** The grant programs that have reduced funding? That one?

....

**Senator WONG:** If you look at the measure 'Related revenue: Department of Social Services', it actually has dots. What is this trying to signify, and what is the effect in the measure? *(Refer to No.7 in Answer)*.

**Mr Tune:** We will have to take that on notice as well.

**Senator WONG:** On page 136: how much funding is required to establish the Registered Organisations Commission? Shall I move on while you are doing that? *(Refer to No.8 in Answer)*.

**Ms Huxtable:** We have got something on that; it will be here in a second. We will come back to that one.

**Senator WONG:** On 'Repeal of the Carbon Tax—abolishing other measures' on pages 144 and 145, can you provide on notice a breakdown of all the individual elements that make up the total measure in both fiscal balance and underlying cash balance terms. *(Refer to No.9 in Answer)*.

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes.

**Senator WONG:** Thank you. I think there are six elements, but I might be wrong. On the Green Army: what is the Finance funding as a result of that? *(Refer to No.10 in Answer)*.

**Mr Tune:** That is for gateway.

**Senator WONG:** Okay. Then there is 156: the voluntary dental graduate year program. Can you tell me how much per year one dental graduate placement in this costs? *(Refer to No.11 in Answer)*.

**Mr Tune:** So you want the unit cost, basically?

**Senator WONG:** What is the unit cost the costing is based on?

**Mr Tune:** We will see if we can find it.

**Senator WONG:** You do not have that?

**Mr Tune:** Not with us, no.

**Senator WONG:** The person who did it is probably somewhere in the next room, right?

**Ms Huxtable:** I do not think so.

**Senator WONG:** Okay. Can you tell me how much funding remains in that program?

**Mr Tune:** We will take that on notice.

**Senator WONG:** Next is 161: the uncommitted health portfolio funding and redirection of funding. Do you have how much funding is remaining in the four programs there—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, chronic disease prevention et cetera, national rural and remote health infrastructure and public health programs? *(Refer to No.13 in Answer)*.

**Mr Tune:** No; we will have to take that on notice as well.

....

**Senator WONG:** But I am about to ask you a question on notice: if that were not the case, could you give me an indication of what the budget impact of the January instalment would be? *(Refer to No.12 in Answer)*.

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes.

...

**Senator WONG:** I was about to suggest not quite that; I was going to ask you to tell me about it by program. So is it possible that we could change the parameters of how I have asked it for the interim? Maybe you could then give me something.

**Mr Tune:** Yes. My reading of the question is that, if you asked about the name of the program and the real and nominal growth over the forwards, we could do it.

**Senator WONG:** What about the funding of these programs over the forward estimates?

**Mr Tune:** We can do that, yes.

**Senator WONG:** That would be great. Can we have that, please? (*Refer to No.13 in Answer*).

**Ms Huxtable:** Yes.

**Mr Tune:** Yes.

**Answer:**

1. The following are measures from the 2013-14 MYEFO that require separate legislation over and above the appropriation bills:
  - Addressing the Backlog and Reintroducing Temporary Protection Visas
  - Agriculture in Education
  - Australian Building and Construction Commission — re-establishment
  - Australia-Indonesia Centre Better Employment Outcomes for Indigenous Australians
  - Biodiversity Fund — reduced funding
  - Community Development Grants programme — establishment
  - Empowered Communities
  - Green Army — establishment
  - Indonesia-Australia Red Meat and Cattle Partnership
  - National Drought Program Reform
  - New Colombo Plan
  - Paid Parental Leave — removing the mandatory obligation for employers to administer payments
  - Relocation Assistance to Take up a Job programme — establishment
  - Remote school attendance strategy
  - Repeal of the Carbon Tax — abolishing business compensation
  - Repeal of the Carbon Tax — abolishing land initiatives and unnecessary bureaucracies
  - Repeal of the Carbon Tax — abolishing energy market compensation
  - Repeal of the Carbon Tax — abolishing other measures
  - Repeal of the Minerals Resource Rent Tax — cessation of certain social security payments
  - Repeal of the Minerals Resource Rent Tax — Regional Infrastructure Fund and Regional Development Australia Fund — discontinue
  - Repeal the tax bonus for working Australians
  - Tasmanian Jobs programme — pilot
2. \$11.8 million is the amount remaining in 2013-14 for the FAO programme. This amount is shown in the Agriculture Portfolio Additional Estimates Statement 2013-14 on page 41.

3. The four legal assistance programs affected by the 'Legal Policy Reform and Advocacy Funding' measure are:
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services;
  - Community Legal Centres;
  - Family Violence Prevention Legal Services; and
  - Legal Aid Commissions.
4. The remaining funds in the Safer Suburbs Program total \$3.3 million in 2013-14 and \$0.5 million in 2014-15.
5. Remaining funding for the ARC Discovery and ARC Linkage as at MYEFO 2013-14 (\$ million) is as follows:

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
ARC Discovery	558.7	545.1	509.0	462.9
ARC Linkage	315.2	307.6	287.6	275.9

The *Centres of Excellence* programme is a sub-programme of ARC Linkage. Funding information is not published separately at that level.

The \$2.3 million was Departmental funding already identified as a saving by the former Government.

6. The programmes in the measure referred to on page 129, *Education grant programmes – reduced funding* are:
  - Commonwealth Grant scheme;
  - Long Day Care Capital Funding Exceptional Circumstances Grant;
  - Youth Engagement scheme;
  - Framework for Open Learning programme; and
  - Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching in Higher *Education* programme
7. The dots displayed in measure descriptions signify that the impacts are not zero but rounded to zero. The effect is that revenue for Department of Social Services has reduced by less than \$50,000 in each year where there are dots indicated in the measure.
8. A response to this question was provided at the hearing. Please refer to page 61 of the Hansard.
9. The breakdown of the individual elements of 'Repeal of the Carbon Tax – abolishing other measures' is included in the table at [Attachment A](#).
10. The Department of Finance received \$0.1 million in 2013-14 for the purpose of conducting the Implementation Readiness Assessment.

- 11.
- The Department of Health advises that the average cost per graduate in 2013-14 is \$115,776 indexed. This does not include payments to the programme administrator to cover infrastructure and administration costs.
  - The financial profile for the 2013-14 MYEFO measure, *Maintaining the Voluntary Dental Graduate Year Programme* was not costed on a unit cost basis. Instead it was calculated by reversing the expansion of the Voluntary Dental Graduate Year Programme, which was published in the 2012-13 Budget measure, *Dental health – increasing the capacity of the dental workforce*.
  - The Voluntary Dental Graduate Year Programme is a sub-programme and funding is not published separately at that level. The funding profile for the Workforce Development and Innovation programme (Programme 12.2), of which the Voluntary Dental Graduate Year Programme is a component is as follows:

<b>Programme Expenses</b>	<b>2013-14 \$m</b>	<b>2014-15 \$m</b>	<b>2015-16 \$m</b>	<b>2016-17 \$m</b>
<b>Programme 12.2:</b> Workforce Development and Innovation	272.7	255.7	267.6	271.3

*Source: 2013-14 Health Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements*

12. The budget impact of the payment of the January instalment of the Schoolkids Bonus is as follows:

<b>January instalment (Underlying Cash Balance)</b>	<b>2013-14 (\$m)</b>	<b>2014-15 (\$m)</b>
Schoolkids Bonus	-555.6	-43.0

13. The funding for these programmes over the forward estimates is as follows:

<b>Programme Expenses</b>	<b>2013-14 (\$m)</b>	<b>2014-15 (\$m)</b>	<b>2015-16 (\$m)</b>	<b>2016-17 (\$m)</b>
Programme 1.1: Prevention, Early Detection and Service Improvement	123.7	108.6	119.7	120.6
Programme 1.6: Public Health	12.3	8.5	7.9	8.1
Programme 6.1: Rural Health Services	89.0	91.0	93.4	92.8
Programme 8.1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health	809.4	803.5	836.0	871.7

*Source: 2013-14 Health Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements.*

The *Chronic Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Fund* and *National Rural and Remote Health Infrastructure Programme* are sub-programmes and funding information is not published separately at that level. Instead funding information has been provided at the programme level for Programmes 1.1 and 6.1 respectively, of which these sub-programmes form a part.

Attachment A

Programme Name*	Department/ Agency	2013-14 \$m (UCB)	2014-15 \$m (UCB)	2015-16 \$m (UCB)	2016-17 \$m (UCB)	TOTAL \$m (UCB)	2013-14 \$m (FB)	2014-15 \$m (FB)	2015-16 \$m (FB)	2016-17 \$m (FB)	TOTAL \$m (FB)
<b>Expense</b>											
Abolish additional support for Synthetic Greenhouse Gases and Ozone Depleting Substances	Department of the Environment	0.0	5.2	10.4	11.2	<b>26.8</b>	0.0	5.2	10.4	11.2	<b>26.8</b>
Abolish the Clean Energy Finance Corporation^	Clean Energy Finance Corporation	10.4	20.9	22.5	23.9	<b>77.6</b>	177.2	320.5	322.4	323.9	<b>1,144.1</b>
Abolish the Climate Commission	Department of the Environment	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>0.6</b>	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>0.6</b>
Abolish the Low Carbon Communities programme	Department of Industry	0.0	15.4	5.7	5.9	<b>27.1</b>	0.0	15.4	5.7	5.9	<b>27.1</b>

Programme Name*	Department/ Agency	2013-14 \$m (UCB)	2014-15 \$m (UCB)	2015-16 \$m (UCB)	2016-17 \$m (UCB)	TOTAL \$m (UCB)	2013-14 \$m (FB)	2014-15 \$m (FB)	2015-16 \$m (FB)	2016-17 \$m (FB)	TOTAL \$m (FB)
Abolish the Low Carbon Communities programme	Department of Social Services	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	<b>9.0</b>	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	<b>9.0</b>
Abolish the Remote Indigenous Energy programme	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	0.0	14.5	11.9	0.0	<b>26.4</b>	0.0	14.5	11.9	0.0	<b>26.4</b>
Abolish the Voluntary Action Pledge Fund	Department of the Environment	0.0	0.9	0.7	0.5	<b>2.1</b>	0.0	0.9	0.7	0.5	<b>2.1</b>
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	-2.0	-6.0	-2.0	0.0	<b>-10.0</b>	-2.0	-6.0	-2.0	0.0	<b>-10.0</b>
Australian Securities and Investments Commission	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	<b>0.7</b>	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	<b>0.7</b>

Programme Name*	Department/ Agency	2013-14 \$m (UCB)	2014-15 \$m (UCB)	2015-16 \$m (UCB)	2016-17 \$m (UCB)	TOTAL \$m (UCB)	2013-14 \$m (FB)	2014-15 \$m (FB)	2015-16 \$m (FB)	2016-17 \$m (FB)	TOTAL \$m (FB)
Expenses related to the reversal of revenue from the Carbon Pricing Mechanism	Australian Taxation Office	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	<b>2.3</b>	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	<b>2.3</b>
Reduce funding for the Australian Renewable Energy Agency	Australian Renewable Energy Agency	0.0	172.3	170.0	92.6	<b>434.9</b>	0.0	172.3	170.0	92.6	<b>434.9</b>
Terminating funding for the Energy Efficiency Opportunities programme	Department of Industry	0.0	7.7	7.6	7.0	<b>22.3</b>	0.0	7.7	7.6	7.0	<b>22.3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9.0</b>	<b>242.9</b>	<b>226.8</b>	<b>141.1</b>	<b>619.8</b>	<b>175.7</b>	<b>542.6</b>	<b>526.7</b>	<b>441.2</b>	<b>1,686.2</b>
Programme Name*	Department/ Agency	2013-14 \$m (UCB)	2014-15 \$m (UCB)	2015-16 \$m (UCB)	2016-17 \$m (UCB)	TOTAL \$m (UCB)	2013-14 \$m (FB)	2014-15 \$m (FB)	2015-16 \$m (FB)	2016-17 \$m (FB)	TOTAL \$m (FB)
<b>Revenue</b>											
Abolish additional support for Synthetic Greenhouse Gases and Ozone Depleting	Department of the Environment	0.0	7.2	3.0	4.0	<b>14.2</b>	0.0	7.2	3.0	4.0	<b>14.2</b>



Programme Name*	Department/ Agency	2013-14 \$m (UCB)	2014-15 \$m (UCB)	2015-16 \$m (UCB)	2016-17 \$m (UCB)	TOTAL \$m (UCB)	2013-14 \$m (FB)	2014-15 \$m (FB)	2015-16 \$m (FB)	2016-17 \$m (FB)	TOTAL \$m (FB)
Substances											
Abolish the Clean Energy Finance Corporation^	Clean Energy Finance Corporation	-0.9	-26.3	-49.9	-83.5	<b>-160.6</b>	0.1	-43.9	-131.3	-263.9	<b>-438.9</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-19.1</b>	<b>-46.9</b>	<b>-79.5</b>	<b>-146.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-36.7</b>	<b>-128.3</b>	<b>-259.9</b>	<b>-424.7</b>
<b>Capital</b>											
Abolish the Clean Energy Finance Corporation^	Clean Energy Finance Corporation	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	<b>0.9</b>	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	<b>0.9</b>

\*Positive numbers indicate a saving or an increase in revenue while negative numbers indicate an expense or a reduction in revenue.

^ These estimates do not make allowance for the costs of closing the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC), such as employee redundancies and contract termination costs, nor for the lower public debt interest costs of ceasing further CEFC investment. The overall impact on the underlying cash balance is negative, reflecting that no further CEFC investments will be made and therefore interest inflows will be lower. The net impact on the fiscal balance is positive, despite reduced interest inflows, due to the smaller CEFC investment portfolio. This primarily reflects the cessation of new concessional loan issuances.