

EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION

REFERENCES COMMITTEE

Inquiry into student income support

Interim Report

Dear Mr President,

The references committee met before the prorogation of the Parliament to consider and report on progress on this inquiry which was due to be reported on 25 November 2004.

The committee has received 131 submissions to date. They include a large number of submissions from individual students and from all major interest groups representing students and universities. The committee will be unable to hold public hearings for this inquiry, as would be necessary to complete its task satisfactorily.

For this reason, the committee has agreed to undertake no further work on the inquiry during what remains of this parliament. The committee notes that the continuation of the inquiry and the date for reporting, probably around May 2005, will be subject to the decision of the new committee when it is reconstituted in the 41st parliament.

Yours sincerely

George Campbell

Medfinoet

Chair

20 October 2004