

Division 44: Disability Services Commission —

[Supplementary Information No B26.]

Question: Dr A.D. Buti requested a copy of an email sent to the director general assuring him that children with disabilities would not be negatively impacted by cuts in education assistance.

Answer:

From: Fitzgerald, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, 21 August 2013 11:51 AM
To: zM Morton
Subject: Education announcement and students with disability
Importance: High

Hi all

We may receive some calls by concerned parents worried about the impact of the announcements made by Minister Collier in relation to Education Assistants working in schools to support students with Disability.

Minister Collier's office have clarified the situation as there appears to be some confusion in the public arena..

Children with a disability will **not** be affected by the changes and will continue to have education assistants if they currently have one. This is because there will be no change to the way assistants are allocated under a program called Schools Plus. Schools Plus give eligible students access to extra resources to provide for special needs. This is the case for all students regardless of whether they attend mainstream or education support schools and centres.

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[Supplementary Information No B27.]

Question: Mr P. Papalia asked: What is the existing funding allocation for the goldfields for 2013–14 and the out years?

Answer: The Commission does not allocate funding by region. Funding is allocated both to individuals who can be identified by region and to organisations as block funding for services to individuals who are not identified by region. Block funded service providers work across multiple regions and report on the number of individuals receiving services but not on the location it was provided.

The expenditure across the state cannot be divided by the proportion of population, for example while Goldfields represents around 2.2% of the state population (under 65) the estimated expenditure for the region is less as the high cost services are largely provided in the metropolitan area.

By adding the individual funding levels in the Goldfields to an adjusted proportion of the state expenditure on block funded services (adjusted for the uneven distribution of services in the State) It is reasonable to state approximately \$10m is recurrently allocated to people in the Goldfields. The Commission predicts that funds will grow in line with population estimates for that area. This is outlined in the table below:

Region	Estimated Expenditure 2013/14
Goldfields	\$10,000,000

Funding in the out-years is subject to further negotiations. Figures for the 2013/14 financial year are estimates and actuals will vary.

[Supplementary Information No B28.]

Question: Dr A.D. Buti asked: What is the funding for the lower south west region and the Kwinana–Cockburn areas in 2013–14 and the out years?

Answer: The Commission does not allocate funding by region. Funding is allocated both to individuals who can be identified by region and to organisations as block funding for services to individuals who are not identified by

region. Block funded service providers work across multiple regions and report on the number of individuals receiving services but not on the location it was provided.

The population of the Commission region of the Lower South West is around 2.35% of the state population (under 65). Approximately \$14m is recurrently allocated to people which live in this area. Under existing models it would be predicted that funds would grow in line with population estimates for that area. Under the arrangements for trial sites an estimated maximum of 1400 people would be eligible for services.

The population of the Commission region of Cockburn–Kwinana is around 5.1% of the state population (under 65). Approximately \$33m is recurrently allocated to people who live in this area. Under existing models it would be predicted that funds would grow in line with population estimates for that area. Under the arrangements for trial sites an estimated maximum of 2700 people would be eligible for services.

These estimates are outlined in the table below:

Region	Estimated Expenditure 2013/14
Lower South West	\$14,000,000
Cockburn–Kwinana	\$33,000,000

Funding in the out-years is subject to further negotiations. Figures for the 2013/14 financial year are estimates and actuals will vary.