

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

559. Hon SUE ELLERY to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

Can the Minister for Regional Development confirm that there is no allocation in the 2014–15 budget for the National Party election promise to introduce gifted and talented education programs initially at all country schools with a residential college and then expanding to regional high schools?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

This initiative is being developed by the Department of Education. Once the details relating to the appropriate delivery of gifted and talented education programs—GATE—in regional areas have been considered and approved, there is capacity within the royalties for regions budget for funding to be allocated to support this initiative.