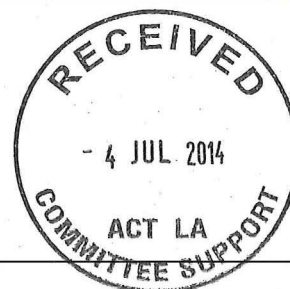




LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2014-2015

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter MLA (Deputy-Chair),
Giulia Jones MLA, Yvette Berry MLA



ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE 31

Mr Steve Doszpot MLA: To ask the Minister for Education and Training

Ref: Output Class 1: Public Education

In relation to: **Sustaining Smart Schools – Digital Infrastructure for our schools**

1. Can you detail the associated expenses (depreciation) in relation to this initiative
2. Why has there been a reduction of \$899,000 in funding for this initiative?
3. With funding now allocated only in 2014-2015 where will funding come from for future maintenance and upgrades?
4. How many wireless access points will this money fund and in which schools?

Ms Joy Burch MLA : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

1. The capital component of this initiative is depreciated over four years resulting in an annual depreciation expense of \$2.3 million.
2. The Government continues to invest in ICT in schools with \$7.1m allocated in the 2013/14 financial year and \$10.7m in the 2014/15 financial year through the Sustaining Smart Schools program. (\$1.5m was already allocated for the 2014/15 from the 2013/14 appropriation and \$9.2m was supplemented to these funds through the 2014/15 budget).
3. Funding proposals to address the recurrent costs of services delivered through these initiatives will be placed through the normal budget process for consideration.
4. It is not currently possible to identify an exact number of wireless access points that will be deployed to schools. The number of access points required is dependent on the size and structure of the school and therefore will vary from school to school. Current piloting at 8 schools has provided insight into wireless coverage needs and cost estimates for other schools. The expansion program on the existing wireless network will focus on high schools and colleges, where there is high demand, and then extend to primary schools.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2014-2015

Signature:

Date:

3/7/18

By the Minister for Education and Training, Ms Joy Burch MLA