



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 TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS



Asked by Mr Doszpot MLA on 23 June 2014 : Ms Burch MLA took on notice the following question:

Ref: Hansard Transcript 23 June 2014 PAGE 89/91

In relation to : Capital funding to non government schools

Mr Doszpot:

1. My understanding is that the ACT is the only state or territory government that does not give funding for capital works for non government schools. Please provide details of the ACT as well as other states and territories' funding of capital works for non government schools?
2. Is there a possibility for the Interest Subsidy Scheme to be resurrected?

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

1. The ACT Government provides significant support for capital infrastructure to non government schools. This support includes:
 - free land at the initial set up of a non government school which provides a large ongoing capital investment;
 - capital grants for the expansion and upgrade of non government preschool facilities;
 - interest charges associated with loans approved under the interest subsidy scheme (prior to closure of the scheme); and
 - access to ACT Government infrastructure such as the new Teacher Quality Institute business system for the regulation of the teaching profession.

Based on recent advice from some states and territories, capital works funding to non government schools include either:

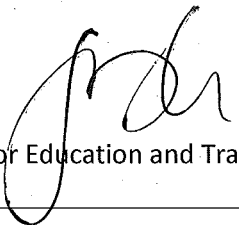
- limited or one-off support;
- support through interest subsidy or similar schemes; and
- direct funding to the relevant parent bodies or block grant authorities.

A direct comparison between states and territories should not be relied upon as there are a number of factors that impact the manner in which capital grants are provided.

2. The interest subsidy scheme was closed to new applicants in 2003. Approved grants under the scheme continue to be funded and surplus funds from the scheme are re-invested into the non government sector.

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

Signature:



Date:

3.7.14

By the Minister for Education and Training, Joy Burch MLA