

Appendix B: Specific Purpose Payments

This appendix provides information on Commonwealth Specific Purpose Payments to the States and local government. This includes Specific Purpose Payments for current and capital purposes, together with details of Commonwealth advances (loans) to the States, including new advances, interest received on advances, and repayments by the States.

Data in this appendix have been prepared on an accrual basis. The tables report payments made by the Commonwealth general government sector including the Australian National Training Authority, rather than the more limited Commonwealth budget sector.

Table B1 presents Specific Purpose Payments on a functional basis for the period 2002-03 to 2006-07. Payments are aggregated according to like objectives and purposes. Payments are further divided into those paid to the States and those paid through the States to be passed on to local government and others. Payments through the States are indicated in the table with an (*) and separate totals for payments to the States and payments through the States are presented in the summary at the end of the table.

Tables B2 and B3 present estimates of the state-by-state distributions of the Specific Purpose Payments listed in Table B1, for the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively. Again, payments through the States are indicated in the table with an (*) and separate totals for payments to the States and payments through the States are presented in the summary at the end of the table.

As in other years, the distribution of assistance for these years under some programmes is dependent upon the recipient government undertaking to participate in particular programmes or approve particular projects. For a few programmes, final decisions on the distribution of payments among the States have still to be taken by the Commonwealth; for others, the final distribution for 2003-04 will not be settled before further data becomes available. In most cases, provisional or notional estimates of the distribution are included. This does not commit the Commonwealth to a particular project or indicate that a State has agreed to participate in the programme.

Tables B4, B5 and B6 present estimates of Commonwealth Specific Purpose Payments direct to local government authorities. Table B4 presents estimates on a functional basis for the period 2002-03 to 2006-07. Tables B5 and B6 present estimates of the state-by-state distributions of payments direct to local government for 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively.