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| MEMORANDUM FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 3350**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23/09/2022**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 36 OF 2022**

 **Ms C V King (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

Whether, according to the Ministerial Task Team report, allowances to National Student Financial Aid Scheme will be increased to factor in the rise in food and transportation cost? **NW4155E**

**REPLY:**

The modelling conducted by the Ministerial Task Team was used to assist the Department, NSFAS and National Treasury as part of the medium-term budget discussions in preparation for the 2022/23 MTEF process. The model used the inflation estimates outlined in the 2022/23 MTEF Guidelines sent out by the National Treasury. This resulted in the shortfall for 2022/23 being addressed in the 2022/23 budget vote, with reprioritisation from across government, as well as an additional amount required from the Department’s budget. However, the discussion on whether allowances can be changed is dependent on funding available and anticipated costs for 2023.

The MTEF allocations to NSFAS for university students are as follows:

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| **MTEF - Allocation**  | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** |
|  |  |  |  |
| University allocation: Baseline | 37 151 442 | 40 711 784 |    44 399 325 |
| Reprioritisation-Universities | 1 207 665 |   |   |
| **Sub-total: Universities** | **38 359 107** | **40 711 784** | **44 399 325** |