

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.CA0014_11

Senator Payne asked on 25/02/2011, Hansard page 39.

Question

INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Senator PAYNE—... What proportion of the 175 who were there 13-plus weeks and the 109 who were there 26 plus have been able to sustain the use of those skills and qualifications to stay in paid employment? The answer has to be derived, I understand it, by your telling us how many you think have come back into your system. Mr Griew—There is one other avenue we could explore which we would be happy to do because it would give an interesting insight into what we could do to help link training and employment pathways, and that would be to ask our state office to go out and speak to some of the providers who handled these clients before they went down this pathway and possibly through any funded projects we had to support their progress through training and employment. It is not based in administrative data, which is the distinction we have been making. But it would give an interesting insight to all of us, I suspect, into what the sustainable pathway is. It is an area that Mr Tongue and I talk about regularly—how we link participation programs like CDEP into training programs and if there is a pathway through to employment and then sustaining that employment. We would be happy to explore that. Perhaps you would like, if the minister is comfortable, a briefing prior to the next estimates or before then. Senator PAYNE—If you would take that sort of material and question on notice, Mr Griew, that would be very helpful.

Answer

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is currently liaising with Senator Payne's office to schedule a suitable time for the department to brief Senator Payne.