

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Place Based Services – Community Positions

Question reference number: HS 22

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard pages 118-119

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 29 March 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Senator SIEWERT: Are you able to tell me who the host organisations are?
Mr Dunn: I do not have that with me. We can take that on notice.
- b) Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice providing me with a job description, for want of a better word—the terms of reference for their work?
Ms Parkes: Yes, we can give you a role statement for the community action leader.
- c) Senator SIEWERT: A role statement, there we go. That would be appreciated, thank you. In terms of the government action leaders, are they in place?
Mr Dunn: They are. They commenced in July last year in 10 locations.
Senator SIEWERT: And again could you provide me on notice a role statement?
Mr Dunn: Sure could.

Answer:

a)

Local Government Area	Host Organisation
Bankstown, NSW	The Smith Family
Shellharbour, NSW	Barnardos Australia
Wyong, NSW	The Benevolent Society
Hume, Vic	Broadmeadows Uniting Care
Greater Shepparton, Vic	CatholicCare
Logan, Qld	Salvation Army
Rockhampton, Qld	The Smith Family
Playford, SA	Anglicare
Kwinana, WA	The Smith Family
Burnie, Tas	CatholicCare

b) Community Action Leaders are employed by a community organisation in each of the ten Local Government Areas and will:

- educate the community about partnership opportunities with government and facilitate the linking of services that address community need;
- initiate and conduct a range of forums and networks as needed to better connect community services and key stakeholders;
- provide information to community organisations about the *Better Futures, Local Solutions* initiative, and encourage submissions to the Local Solutions Fund to address service gaps;
- encourage interested parties to apply for funding from the Local Solutions Fund, and directly assist them in the application process;
- provide secretariat and other support for the Local Advisory Group including assisting with the Local Solutions Fund assessment process;
- assist community group recipients of Local Solutions Fund monies to develop and deliver projects; and
- work with a Government Action Leader to help the community identify service delivery gaps and new opportunities to boost engagement, capability and workforce participation for people experiencing barriers to employment and social inclusion.

c) Government Action Leaders are Department of Human Services employees based in each of the ten Local Government Areas. Government Action Leaders will:

- map and identify gaps in local services and develop strategies to address these gaps;
- work across government and community programs and services to improve linkages and help ensure local needs are met;
- maintain effective feedback and information loops with local communities and the Department of Human Services;
- facilitate linkages across all levels of government, and the private sector; and
- work with a Community Action Leader to help the community identify service delivery gaps and new opportunities to boost engagement, capability and workforce participation among people experiencing barriers to employment and social inclusion.