

Budget Estimates 2013-2014 - Index to Questions on Notice - Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters - Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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QoN No	Outcome	Broad Topic	Senator	Question Text	Hansard Reference
CA0001_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - EOI process	Payne, Marise	<p>Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP) - EOI process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How many meetings did the Minister or the Minister's advisers have with organisations that had submitted EOIs, in the lead up to the EOI deadline? Can the department provide a list of these organisations? ● Why has it taken so long to decide on the successful providers in the Central Cape and Western Cape regions of Queensland? ● Why has an announcement on the contract for the Kowanyama and Pormpuraaw region and the Northern Peninsula region on the Cape been possible, but those for the Central Cape and Western Cape have not? 	Written
CA0002_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Remote Youth Leadership Development Corps	Payne, Marise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can the department provide an update on progress on the rollout of the Remote Youth Leadership Development Corps program? ● When will places under the program be made available? ● How will the approximately 12,000 places available under the program be divided between the 59 RJCP regions? ● How much funding will be allocated to each of the 12,000 Youth Corps places? ● What is the benefit of the Youth Corps program to participants, over and above other employment services that will be available through the RJCP in their communities? ● The Fact Sheet on the Youth Corps program available on the DEEWR website says "the Australian Government will also work with state and territory governments to identify and source opportunities for young people graduating from Youth Corps." What does this mean in practice, and how will it differ from what Commonwealth and state and territory governments will already be doing to create employment opportunities under the RJCP program? 	Written
CA0003_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	Indigenous Employment Program	Payne, Marise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is it correct that, following the consultation process on the IEP which concluded on 19 April 2013, the department has briefed the Minister and is looking to implement a new version of the IEP next financial year, ie from 1 July 2013? ● If so, when will details on any changes to the IEP be made available publicly, and when will IEP providers be advised? ● If the new version of the IEP is due to start from 1 July 2013 and information on the new version is not yet available, how will this short timeframe give IEP providers and stakeholders adequate time to adjust to the new system? ● Can the department confirm that the government placed a funding moratorium or grants pause on the IEP, commencing last year? ● What were the start and end dates for the moratorium or grants pause? ● In an answer to a question on notice on the grants pause (CA0033_13), you said "Stakeholders with IEP applications for tailored assistance and for Indigenous Wage Subsidy, Indigenous Cadetship Support and CDEP Work Experience that were affected by the grants pause, were informed of the pause and advised their applications would be processed as soon as possible after the pause ended." Over the moratorium or grants pause period, were any stakeholders with IEP applications for Indigenous Wage Subsidy, Indigenous Cadetship Support and CDEP Work Experience not affected by the grants pause, or did it apply to all stakeholders with such applications? ● If it did not apply to all stakeholders, why not, and how was the decision made about who was included and who was not? ● What was the actual impact of the moratorium or grants pause? Were some IEP contracts approved during the moratorium? If so, in what way was it actually a moratorium or grants pause at all? 	Written

CA0004_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	Australian Employment Covenant	Payne, Marise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2013 you provided on notice some information on the VTEC review. You said the Minister had been briefed on the VTEC report, the findings were being considered, and a decision had yet to be made about its public release. Can you provide an update on the VTEC review? • On what date was the report submitted to the department? • What were the findings and recommendations of the report? • What work is now being done to progress the findings or recommendations in the report? • Is the department preparing policy recommendations in response to the report? Have these been presented to the Minister? • When will the report be made publicly available? If the report will not be made public, why not? 	Written
CA0005_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	Relates to Question 329	Scullion, Nigel	In a written response to Question on Notice 329 from Additional Estimates, it was disclosed that the gap in employment between indigenous and non indigenous was 29.2% in 2006 and 27.4% in 2011. How much was spent by the Commonwealth on indigenous employment programs in this period?	Written
CA0006_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - effect of closure of IEP	Scullion, Nigel	<p>Is it still the case that the Indigenous Employment Program will be abolished on July 1 2013 in all areas covered by the Remote Jobs and Communities Program?</p> <p>What steps are being taken to make sure that people in Remote Jobs and Communitis Program locations won't be adversely affected?</p>	Written
CA0007_1 4	Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth	Australian Indigenous Education Foundation	Scullion, Nigel	<p>What is the total amount that the Department has agreed to pay to the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, including the amount announced in this year's budget?</p> <p>Under the arrangement how many students are meant to be assisted?</p> <p>How much of the funding is for salaries and administrative overheads?</p>	Written
CA0008_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	Comparison of funding between RJCP and other employment services	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: That is great. Ms Milliken on notice, could you please give the committee a comparison of how the funding per job seeker under the RJCP compares with the funding extending to those jobseekers for the four existing employment services-that is, the JSA, disability employment, the CDEP and the IEP-so I can see the sort of money that is attracting to these providers versus what was there before for the same sorts of jobseekers?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Certainly.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Thank you very much.</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: We will certainly take that on notice. We would need to point out that, with the IEP in particular, where that is for an employer, if it is about economic development, there is not a natural per jobseeker-</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: It will not be an apples and apples situation. I understand.</p>	7/06/2013 60-2
CA0009_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP timeline on website	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: Is the time line on the website that you referred to earlier than you are expecting providers to meet?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I am not sure. I will need to take that on notice. It is in the funding deed.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Ms Milliken: And it will be in the transition guide which is about to go up. We have notified all of the current providers individually of the transition arrangements and we have also been working with the selected providers, but there is some additional information we are putting up on the website for them.</p>	7/06/2013 60-3
CA0010_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Copy of funding deed	Payne, Marise	<p>Ms Milliken: It is in the funding deed.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Do you have a copy with you?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I do not have a copy of the funding deed with me.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Could you provide a copy of that on notice to the committee?</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: Certainly.</p>	7/06/2013 60-4

CA0011_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Selection criteria used for assessment of applicants	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: Do you have a copy with you of the selection criteria used for the assessment of the applications?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: In the expression of interest, yes.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Can you provide a copy of that to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Certainly.</p>	7/06/2013 60-5
CA0012_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Financial viability assessment for applicants	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: Can you tell me what financial information applicants were asked to submit?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: The applicants were asked to submit financial viability information-</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: What sort?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: With their initial application, applicants were asked to provide information that went to their financial statements, any Commonwealth debts and acquittals they might have and relevant people. They were also asked to outline the type of entity, trust details and those sorts of things.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: So just their own financial status, basically?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Yes, and then a financial viability assessment was undertaken for those who were likely to be selected. So additional information was sought on those candidates where we were investigating further.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: What was the nature of that sort of information?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I am sorry but I do not have the detail of that with me. I would need to take that on notice.</p>	7/06/2013 61-2
CA0013_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Financial viability of applicants	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: So if I was to ask you to provide the committee with the information that enabled you to assess each applicant's financial and organisational capacity to deliver on the contract, would you be able to do that-even with identifiers removed to protect any aspects of commercial in confidence?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Do you think that you would be able to do that?</p> <p>Ms Taylor: It is difficult to say, Senator.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: That bothers me somewhat.</p> <p>Ms Taylor: I am just wondering whether we can de-identify. Can you give me a bit of an example of what you are thinking of here?</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: I want to know that you know that, of all of the appointments that have been made, every single one of them has a business model and has proved their financial viability to you to run these programs.</p> <p>Ms Milliken: In many circumstances this is not the only business that that organisation will be operating.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: What is your point? I am not sure I understand.</p> <p>Ms Milliken: It is a matter for the corporation to determine the level of-</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: I do not actually agree with that. This is Commonwealth money. It is a matter for the department to be assured, in my view.</p> <p>Ms Taylor: The other thing is the commercial-in-confidence nature of the information, which is why I will take on notice to see what we can provide. I think that is the best thing to do.</p>	7/06/2013 62-2
CA0014_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Assistance to applicants from KPMG	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: So to how many of the applicants who have been awarded projects did KPMG provide services?</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: It would be KPMG or another like organisation, and I do not know if we have that but I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Could someone look for whether that is available now?</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: Certainly.</p>	7/06/2013 1-62-3
CA0015_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - funding deeds	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: No, I had two questions. The first one is specific to the locations: so, did any organisations receive funding deeds who had not worked in the remote locations for which they were seeking contracts in any capacity or in a job service capacity?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I would need to take it on notice but I think the answer is probably no, in terms of looking at a region, whether it is the organisation that is the one that has been awarded the contract or a subcontractor who has been announced as part of their operational arrangements.</p>	7/06/2013 1-63-2

CA0016_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - funding deeds - organisations without experience in remote communities	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: Then the next question is: were any of the funding deeds awarded to organisations that had never worked in any capacity in remote Indigenous communities before?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I think that is the same answer.</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: I think the answer is no.</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Can I just clarify that? I think there are none where the provider or a subcontractor has not provided some service in that region-some program or service more broadly-and is not known to that region. And, in terms of providing JSA, CDEP or disability employment services in a region, I would need to take it on notice but I think it is a very small number.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can I just clarify that? Where organisations have subcontractors that do not have that rural experience-and I am not asking about subcontractors; I am asking about the main organisation-</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Sorry?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I am not asking about the subcontractors; I am asking about the main organisation. So I understand the issue about the subcontractors working in the community, but are there organisations that have contracts that do not have experience in remote areas, who are relying solely on the subcontractors to provide that experience? That is my question.</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I do not believe so.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take that on notice to double-check?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you.</p>	7/06/2013 1-63-3
CA0017_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Unsuccessful employment service providers	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: How many existing employment service providers in the regions who submitted EOIs for the RJCP funding were not successful?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I am unable to provide details on applicant organisations.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: I did not ask you for any details on applicant organisations. I asked you how many existing ESPs were unsuccessful. I do not care who they were or where they were. I just want to know how many.</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I do not have that information with me. I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Please do take it on notice.</p>	7/06/2013 65-2
CA0018_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - EOIs received after cut off date	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: We were speaking about the extension of the cut-off date to 28 November. Were any EOIs lodged after 28 November that were considered?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: I would need to take on notice whether there were any in the immediate period after that.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Can I give you a breakdown for that then, if you would? Can you indicate whether any EOIs were lodged after the cut-off date and why was that permitted, given the cut-off date had already been extended? Can you indicate how many days or weeks after the cut-off date they were lodged? You probably will not tell me this, but can you tell me the names of any entities that did lodge after the cut-off date? As a subset to that question, can you give me the names of any entities that lodged after the cut-off date that were successful?</p> <p>Ms Milliken: My recollection-and I will take it on notice-is that there were no applications that were received or lodged beyond the initial week, so they were ones where they were in train and there were technical issues about them not being able to be received on the day of closure. But there were none that were received beyond immediately after the applications closed. But I will follow that up.</p>	7/06/2013 65-3

CA0019_1 4	Outcome 3 - Employment	RJCP - Providers plans to assist job seekers	Payne, Marise	<p>Senator PAYNE: If there is an indication you can provide us, Ms Milliken, de-identified of a process, for example, that might apply in an area with a large number of job seekers. Let me choose one randomly. What about the Gibb River region in Western Australia? Has that been appointed? Is there something you can provide the community on notice to show what the provider in the Gibb River region will be doing to work with their job seekers between the day they were appointed and the end of August?</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: We might be able to help you with a bit of a rundown between our expectations and what is happening with providers and job seekers prior to 1 July.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: I think Ms Milliken just did that. What I would like to see is a plan from a provider.</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: The provider's plan?</p> <p>Senator PAYNE: Correct.</p> <p>Ms J Taylor: We will take that on notice.</p>	7/06/2013 66-2
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