

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 236

Topic: NT Government Alcohol Mandatory Treatment Bill

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Are you undertaking any work to examine how the removal of the Banned Drinker Registry has impacted on up-take of any federally funded programs?

Answer:

Many of the programs under the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Tackling Alcohol Abuse measure were designed as part of a comprehensive approach to tackling alcohol abuse in the NT, included complementing existing Northern Territory initiatives such as the Banned Drinker Register. There were nearly 2500 people on the Banned Drinker Register at the time it was dismantled by the newly elected Northern Territory Government in August 2012. This meant that there was not sufficient time for the effectiveness of the Banned Drinker Register and complementary tools to be fully evaluated, having only been in operation for approximately 12 months. The Department continues to closely monitor and assess any impact that the removal of the Banned Drinker Register has had as part of the ongoing work in this area.