

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Funding Arrangements - transitional issues

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

Question reference number: 136

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 5

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Can we have a list of all the programs that have been given six months and 12 months?

Mr Hooper: Conceptually, yes. I think we can do that for you on notice.

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Senator McLUCAS: Every single service that has an expiring contract on 30 June this year will get a transition arrangement?

Mr Eccles: There are some that have indicated that they do not want to. That is a small number.

Senator McLUCAS: Can we have a list of those?

Mr Eccles: Sure.

Mr Hooper: There are some that are projects that were only ever going to go to 30 June that will naturally cease anyway.

Senator McLUCAS: May I have those now, please?

Mr Eccles: Yes. Just to be clear, we will get you those that decided to opt out and those where there was a natural end to the work that they were doing, because it was always intended to be time limited.

Senator McLUCAS: How many of those are there?

Mr Eccles: We would need to take it on notice. The fundamental premise is that we are rolling them over where they had an expectation that they would get funding. If they have had a track record of funding before, we will roll them over.

Ms Carroll: We will try to get to you today the breakdown of the total number of funding arrangements. That is, who has got six months, who has got 12 months and who is not continuing. There is probably one other category, which we have not talked about. That is that some service providers may not be performing and, because

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of underperformance, we would not want to continue. We can pull those together for you over lunch.

Mr Hooper: We could certainly get the numbers for you. I think the actual individual details of the organisations will take a bit longer than that.

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Mr Hooper: It is easier to think about activities. The funding agreements are delivering a set of services and activities, and the funding agreements have been mapped to the new—

Senator SIEWERT: Can you give us that, then?

Senator McLUCAS: I think that is what I asked for, isn't it?

Ms Carroll: We will take on notice what we give you there.

Senator MOORE: Can you tell me what the problem is. You looked very distressed when we asked that, and I take that point in terms of the workload. What is the problem in providing us with what we have asked for?

Mr Eccles: Because there are 4,000 contracts.

Senator MOORE: All of which are in the system.

Mr Eccles: We can take it on notice. We went through 4,000 contracts and assessed each of them—

Senator MOORE: Which has been done. That work is completed.

Mr Eccles: That is right. It is a laborious exercise but important, so we will take it on notice.

Senator Scullion: What we were taking on notice was, by exception, those areas that may not be included within the general, "If you are on 30 June 2014, you will be extended." So we have got those categories. I think we can supply that today. We have agreed we can get that today. For the remainder of those 4,000, were you asking for all of those programs to be provided?

Senator McLUCAS: There are 4,000 contracts and there are 150 programs that are going to turn into five. We want to be able to track what is happening between each. If there is an organisation in Yarrabah that is getting a program to work with children after school, is it six months extended or 12 months extended? Is it going to go into the "children and whatever" program? Is that where it will be, and which ones do not end up there? If you cut half a billion dollars out of Indigenous services, some are going to stop.

Senator Scullion: It is \$239 million over these programs.

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Senator McLUCAS: Some are going to stop and we, on behalf of our constituencies, are trying to track that.

Ms Carroll: We will take on notice that exact tracking. We will not be able to get you that this afternoon, but what we possibly could get you this afternoon is the broad numbers of the other question, which was: how many got six months and how many got 12 months.

Answer:

A response to questions related to the following matters was tabled by the Department at the Senate Budget Estimates Hearing on Friday 30 May 14:

- Number of contracts being extended by six months
- Number of contracts being extended by 12 months
- Number of those who have indicated they do not want to continue to be funded
- Number of those projects that were naturally ceasing on 30 June 2014
- Number of contracts that have ceased due to concerns about performance

Responses to the remaining elements are covered below.

Contract extensions of six months are being offered to activities under the following programmes. The table also identifies where contracts will map to under new arrangements:

Current Programme	Contracts mapped to New Programme
Boarding Facilities Northern Territory	Children and Schooling
Family Support Program	Individual contracts are mapped to multiple programmes
Indigenous Education Consultative Body (IECB)	Children and Schooling
Indigenous Capability and Development (ICAD) Program	Individual contracts are mapped to multiple programmes
Indigenous Women's Programme	Safety and Wellbeing
SFNT - Communities for Children Playgroups and Crèches	Children and Schooling

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This above list only covers the 226 contracts that are being extended for 6 months. It does not include all other activities under these programmes (or other programmes) where contracts have end dates beyond 30 June 2014.

Extensions of 12 months are being offered to activities under the following programmes. The table also identifies where contracts will map to under new arrangements:

Current Programme	Contracts mapped to New Programme
Community Night Patrols	Safety and Wellbeing
Family Violence Prevention Legal Services	Safety and Wellbeing
Family Support Program	Individual contracts are mapped to multiple programmes
Indigenous Broadcasting Program	Culture and Capability
Indigenous Capability and Development (ICAD) Program	Individual contracts are mapped to multiple programmes
Indigenous Communications Program	Remote Australia Strategies
Indigenous Justice Program	Safety and Wellbeing
Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure	Remote Australia Strategies
Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program	Safety and Wellbeing
National Heritage Trust	Jobs, Land Economy
SFNT Legal Aid	Safety and Wellbeing
Social and Emotional Wellbeing	Safety and Wellbeing
Substance Misuse	Safety and Wellbeing
Indigenous Employment Programme	Jobs, Land Economy
Workforce Support Units	Safety and Wellbeing

This above list only covers the 588 contracts that are being extended for 12 months. It does not include all other activities under these programmes (or other programmes) where contracts have end dates beyond 30 June 2014.