

**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:** Truancy officer exit interviews

**Senator:** Senator Rachel Siewert

**Question reference number:** 139

**Type of Question:** FPA, Friday 30 May 2014, page 55

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator SIEWERT: Are you doing exit interviews with people who are leaving?

Mr Fordham: We are, yes. We are not the employers. It is up to—

Senator SIEWERT: Do you require them to be done?

Mr Fordham: No, we do not require them to be done.

Senator SIEWERT: Do you know how many have been done?

Mr Fordham: I would have to take that on notice.

Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice, please.

Mr Fordham: Yes.

Senator SIEWERT: Why are you not requiring them to be done? To understand this new program, I would have thought it would be useful to know why there is that high turnover.

**Answer:**

Remote Jobs and Communities Programme service providers and other providers engage and employ School Attendance Officers and Supervisors. Under the terms of the funding arrangements exit interviews are not required. However the department that administers the funding agreements encourages providers to discuss the reasons for leaving these positions whether this be through informal discussions or exit interviews.

Information from providers indicates that while informal discussions usually occur on exit, precise numbers are not available.