

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Examination of Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Additional Information Received

CONSOLIDATED VOLUME 3

CROSS PORTFOLIO INDIGENOUS ISSUES

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE
RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS
PORTFOLIO**

HUMAN SERVICES PORTFOLIO

**Please note that Additional Information received relating to the Cross Portfolio
Indigenous issues hearing for FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES
AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO and HEALTH AND AGEING
PORTFOLIO is included in the volumes for these portfolios**

22 OCTOBER 2009

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR 2009-2010

Included in this volume are answers to written and oral questions taken on notice and tabled papers relating to the budget estimates hearing on Indigenous issues pursuant to Senate Resolution of 26 August 2008 held on 5 June 2009

*** Please note that the tabling date of 29 October 2009 is the proposed tabling date**

Senator	Quest. No.		Vol. 3 Page No.	Date tabled in the Senate or presented out of session*
	T1	NTER cross agency expenditure report as at 30 April 2009 by agency and theme		25.06.09
	T2	Tabled by Senator Scullion – letter dated 27 May 09 from Senator Scullion to NT Chief Minister relating to roll out of OPAL fuel		25.06.09

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Boyce	1	Number of native title claims remaining unresolved		20.08.09
Boyce	2	Cape York land rights		20.08.09
Boyce	5	Measures taken to inform international companies about requirements under the native title system		20.08.09
Boyce	4	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Service (North Queensland)		29.10.09
Boyce	3	Night patrols		29.10.09

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

Back	CA001_10	Hostel/boarding accommodation – Clontarf Aboriginal College		17.09.09
Back	CA004_10	Indigenous boarding infrastructure initiatives		17.09.09
	CA006_10			
Back	CA007_10	Hear and Learn and LightSPEED hearing technology – Indigenous ear health		17.09.09
Back	CA008_10	Hearing technology to improve literacy and numeracy		17.09.09
Back	CA009_10	Hear and Learn and Lightspeed trial at Punmu		17.09.09
Siewert	CA0012_10	Child care services and workers engaged in delivery of services in APY Lands		17.09.09
Siewert	CA0013_10	Funding for Indigenous child care services; CDEP positions transitioned to child care jobs		17.09.09
Siewert	CA0015_10	Governance of Northern Territory trials of the school enrolment and attendance measure		17.09.09

Payne	CA0019 _10 CA0021 _10 CA0022 _10	Closing the Gap – Sporting Chance Program	17.09.09
Back	CA002_ 10	Indigenous boarding facilities	17.09.09
Back	CA003_ 10	Indigenous boarding infrastructure initiatives	17.09.09
Payne	CA0020 _10	Closing the Gap – sporting change program	17.09.09
Back	CA005_ 10	Hostel accommodation	17.09.09
Siewert	CA0010 _10 CA0011 _10	Indigenous organisations contracted to deliver Job Services Australia stream services	17.09.09
Payne	CA0023 _10	Indigenous Employment Program (IEP)	17.09.09
Payne	CA0024 _10	CDEP	17.09.09
Siewert	CA014_ 10	CDEP participants affected by CDEP closures	29.10.09
Payne	CA018_ 10	Closing the Gap – Northern Territory – enhancing education – teacher housing	29.10.09
Mason	CA016_ 10. CA017_ 10	Northern Territory school attendance	29.10.09

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

Payne		Closing the Gap – Strengthening Australia's Indigenous Visual Arts Industry – Additional funding	25.06.09
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HUMAN SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Outcome 1

Siewert	CA1	Breaching	20.08.09
Scullion	CA2	Reasons people are breached/not breached due to intervention	20.08.09
Siewert	CA3	Break down of 2009-10 money that is allocated to income quarantine	20.08.09

NTER Cross Agency Expenditure Report as at 30 APRIL 2009
BY AGENCY

AGENCY	THEME	MEASURE	Total Admin Budget \$m	YTD Admin Exp \$m	% Spent	Total Dept Budget \$m	YTD Dept Exp \$m	% Spent	Total NTER Reportable Budget (Admin + Dept) \$m	Total YTD Exp (Admin + Dept) \$m	% Spent
AGD	Promoting Law & Order	Violence & Child Abuse Taskforce (ACC)				4.2	3.7	88%	4.2	3.7	88%
		Aboriginal Interpreter service	0.7	0.7	100%	0.1	0.1	100%	0.8	0.8	100%
		Indigenous Legal Aid	2.3	2.2	93%				2.3	2.2	93%
		Night Patrol services	17.1	11.2	65%	0.6	0.5	88%	17.7	11.7	66%
		Promoting Law & Order (AFP)				9.2	5.4	59%	9.2	5.4	59%
	Total AGD		20.1	14.1	70%	14.0	9.7	69%	34.2	23.7	69%
DEEWR	Enhancing Education	Enhancing Education	18.6	3.2	17%	0.5	0.3	55%	19.1	3.5	18%
		School Nutrition	6.9	3.6	52%	0.5	0.3	55%	7.4	3.9	52%
		Greater Enrolment; + 200 Teachers	11.6	4.2	36%				11.6	4.2	36%
	Subtotal		37.1	11.0	30%	1.1	0.6	55%	38.2	11.6	30%
	Supporting Families	Creches	2.3	1.1	48%				2.3	1.1	48%
	Subtotal		2.3	1.1	48%				2.3	1.1	48%
	Employment & Welfare Reform	Further Welfare & Employment Reform ^{(A) (1)}	31.7	24.4	77%	21.1	11.7	55%	52.8	36.1	68%
	Subtotal		31.7	24.4	77%	21.1	11.7	55%	52.8	36.1	68%

		Total DEEWR	71.1	36.5	51%	22.2	12.3	55%	93.3	48.8	52%
DHS	Employment & Welfare Reform	Centrelink Services and Activities				6.1	4.7	77%	6.1	4.7	77%
		Income Management - Debit Card Set Up ⁽²⁾				7.0	1.5	21%	7.0	1.5	21%
		Income Management - DHS Only ⁽³⁾				4.5	3.0	67%	4.5	3.0	67%
	Total DHS				17.6	9.2	52%	17.6	9.2	52%	
DoHA	Improving Health	Follow Up Health Care	13.6	10.7	79%				13.6	10.7	79%
		Improve Child and Family Health	39.0	25.3	65%	6.5	5.4	83%	45.5	30.7	67%
	Total DoHA		52.6	36.0	68%	6.5	5.4	83%	59.1	41.4	70%
FaHCSIA (Excluding NTER - Flexible Funding Pool Special A/C)	Coordination	Community Engagement	0.9	0.6	63%	3.3	2.4	71%	4.3	2.9	69%
		Leadership and Coordination Activities	12.6	6.4	51%	19.8	15.3	77%	32.4	21.7	67%
		Government Business Managers				36.6	26.8	73%	36.6	26.8	73%
		Remote Accommodation				7.4	6.4	86%	7.4	6.4	86%
		NTER Asbestos ⁽⁴⁾				1.3	0.1	7%	1.3	0.1	7%
	Subtotal		13.5	7.0	52%	68.4	50.9	74%	82.0	57.9	71%
	Employment & Welfare Reform	Income Management - FaHCSIA only	5.2	3.1	59%	5.1	3.7	71%	10.3	6.7	65%
		Income Management - Appropriated to FaHCSIA and Paid to Centrelink ^{(5a) (5b)}				86.6	60.3	70%	86.6	60.3	70%
	Subtotal		5.2	3.1	59%	91.7	64.0	70%	96.9	67.0	69%
	Law & Order	Promoting Law & Order	10.4	6.8	65%	0.7	0.5	77%	11.0	7.3	66%
Subtotal		10.4	6.8	65%	0.7	0.5	77%	11.0	7.3	66%	
Supporting Families	Early Childhood Programs	0.4	0.3	80%				0.4	0.3	80%	
	Playgroups	0.7	0.4	60%	0.1	0.1	77%	0.7	0.5	61%	

		Youth Alcohol Diversion	8.8	5.2	59%	0.8	0.7	77%	9.6	5.8	60%
		Family Support Package	9.5	7.6	80%	0.4	0.3	81%	9.9	7.9	80%
		Subtotal	19.4	13.5	70%	1.3	1.0	78%	20.7	14.5	70%
		Total FaHCSIA	48.5	30.3	63%	162.1	116.4	72%	210.6	146.7	70%
PM&C - Ombudsman's Office	Coordination	Commonwealth Ombudsman Support ⁽⁶⁾				1.0	0.7	70%	1.0	0.7	70%
Total (Excluding NTER - Flexible Funding Pool Special A/C)			192.3	116.9	61%	223.5	153.7	69%	415.8	270.6	65%
FaHCSIA	Employment & Welfare Reform	NTER - Flexible Funding Pool Special A/C	68.0	68.0	100%	7.9	7.9	100%	76.0	76.0	100%
Total			260.3	184.9	71%	231.4	161.6	70%	491.8	346.5	70%
(A) Plus Special Appropriation - part of DEEWR item shown above as \$65.9m (PBS value is \$66.4m)									0.5		
Total NTER Resourcing Budget									492.3	346.5	70%

Budget Adjustments

(1) Administered Appropriation originally reported as \$44.8m a savings offset identified for 2008-09 in 2007-08 PAES of \$13.1m. 2008/09 Administered measure is now reported as \$31.7m

(2) Increase in DHS's Departmental Appropriation of \$3.1m for Income Management Debit Card Set Up approved in Budget context 2009/10 for appropriation in 2008/09

(3) Increase in DHS's Departmental Appropriation of \$4.3m for Income Management approved in in Budget context 2009/10 for appropriation in 2008/09

(4) Additional FaHCSIA's Departmental Appropriation of \$1.3m for Asbestos cleanup under the Coordination measures approved in Budget context 2009/10 for appropriation in 2008/09

(5a) Increase in FaHCSIA's Departmental Appropriation of \$34.6m for the extension of the Income Management measure approved in Budget context 2009/10 for appropriation in 2008/09

(5b) FaHCSIA's payment to Centrelink of \$72.2m reported below the line and Centrelink's expenditure is included

(6) Increase in PM&C - Ombudsman's Office Departmental Appropriation of \$0.8m for complaints handling and operational costs under the Coordination measure approved at PAES 2008/09

NTER Cross Agency Expenditure Report as at 30 APRIL 2009
BY THEME

THEME	AGENCY	MEASURE	Total Admin Budget \$'m	YTD Admin Exp \$'m	% Spent	Total Dept Budget \$'m	YTD Dept Exp \$'m	% Spent	Total NTER Reportable Budget (Admin + Dept) \$m	Total YTD Exp (Admin + Dept) \$m	% Spent	
Coordination	FaHCSIA	Community Engagement	0.9	0.6	63%	3.3	2.4	71%	4.3	2.9	69%	
	FaHCSIA	Leadership and Coordination Activities	12.6	6.4	51%	19.8	15.3	77%	32.4	21.7	67%	
	FaHCSIA	Government Business Managers				36.6	26.8	73%	36.6	26.8	73%	
	FaHCSIA	Remote Accommodation				7.4	6.4	86%	7.4	6.4	86%	
	FaHCSIA	NTER Asbestos ⁽⁴⁾				1.3	0.1	7%	1.3	0.1	7%	
		FaHCSIA sub total		13.5	7.0	52%	68.4	50.9	74%	82.0	57.9	71%
	Omb Off.	Commonwealth Ombudsman Support ⁽⁶⁾				1.0	0.7	70%	1.0	0.7	70%	
	Total Coordination			13.5	7.0	52%	69.4	51.6	74%	83.0	58.6	71%
Enhancing Education	DEEWR	Enhancing Education	18.6	3.2	17%	0.5	0.3	55%	19.1	3.5	18%	
	DEEWR	School Nutrition	6.9	3.6	52%	0.5	0.3	55%	7.4	3.9	52%	
	DEEWR	Greater Enrolment; + 200 Teachers	11.6	4.2	36%				11.6	4.2	36%	
	Total Enhancing Education			37.1	11.0	30%	1.1	0.6	55%	38.2	11.6	30%
Employment &	FaHCSIA	Income Management - FaHCSIA only	5.2	3.1	59%	5.1	3.7	71%	10.3	6.7	65%	

Welfare Reform	FaHCSIA	Income Management - Appropriated to FaHCSIA and Paid to Centrelink ^(5a) ^(5b)				86.6	60.3	70%	86.6	60.3	70%
		FaHCSIA sub total	5.2	3.1	59%	91.7	64.0	70%	96.9	67.0	69%
	DEEWR	Further Welfare & Employment Reform ^(A) ⁽¹⁾	31.7	24.4	77%	21.1	11.7	55%	52.8	36.1	68%
	DHS	Centrelink Services and Activities				6.1	4.7	77%	6.1	4.7	77%
	DHS	Income Management - Debit Card Set Up ⁽²⁾				7.0	1.5	21%	7.0	1.5	21%
	DHS	Income Management - DHS Only ⁽³⁾				4.5	3.0	67%	4.5	3.0	67%
		DHS sub total				17.6	9.2	52%	17.6	9.2	52%
	Total Employment & Welfare Reform			36.9	27.5	74%	130.5	84.9	65%	167.3	112.3
Improvin g Health	DoHA	Follow Up Health Care	13.6	10.7	79%				13.6	10.7	79%
	DoHA	Improve Child and Family Health	39.0	25.3	65%	6.5	5.4	83%	45.5	30.7	67%
	Total Improving Health			52.6	36.0	68%	6.5	5.4	83%	59.1	41.4
Promoti ng Law & Order	ACC	Violence & Child Abuse Taskforce				4.2	3.7	88%	4.2	3.7	88%
	AGD	Indigenous Legal Aid	2.3	2.2	93%				2.3	2.2	93%
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	AGD (AFP)	Promoting Law & Order (AFP)				9.2	5.4	59%	9.2	5.4	59%
		AGD sub total	20.1	14.1	70%	14.0	9.7	69%	34.2	23.7	69%
	FaHCSIA	Promoting Law & Order	10.4	6.8	65%	0.7	0.5	77%	11.0	7.3	66%
	Total Promoting Law & Order			30.5	20.8	68%	14.7	10.2	69%	45.2	31.0
Supporti	DEEWR	Creches	2.3	1.1	48%				2.3	1.1	48%

ng Families	FaHCSIA	Early Childhood Programs	0.4	0.3	80%				0.4	0.3	80%
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	FaHCSIA	Youth Alcohol Diversion	8.8	5.2	59%	0.8	0.7	77%	9.6	5.8	60%
	FaHCSIA	Family Support Package	9.5	7.6	80%	0.4	0.3	81%	9.9	7.9	80%
	FaHCSIA sub total		19.4	13.5	70%	1.3	1.0	78%	20.7	14.5	70%
	Total Supporting Families		21.7	14.6	67%	1.3	1.0	78%	23.0	15.6	68%
Total (Excluding NTER - Flexible Funding Pool Special A/C)			192.3	116.9	61%	223.5	153.7	69%	415.8	270.6	65%
Employment & Welfare Reform	FaHCSIA	NTER - Flexible Funding - Special A/C	68.0	68.0	100%	7.9	7.9	100%	76.0	76.0	100%
Total			260.3	184.9	71%	231.4	161.6	70%	491.8	346.5	70%
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Total NTER Appropriation (Resourcing)									492.3	346.5	70%

Budget Adjustments

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- (5a) Increase in FaHCSIA's Departmental Appropriation of \$34.6m for the extension of the Income Management measure approved in Budget context 2009/10 for appropriation in 2008/09
- (5b) FaHCSIA's payment to Centrelink of \$72.2m reported below the line and Centrelink's expenditure is included in the report
- (6) Increase in PM&C - Ombudsman's Office Departmental Appropriation of \$0.8m for complaints handling and operational costs under the Coordination measure approved at PAES 2008/09

T2



Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion

Shadow Minister for Human Services
Deputy Leader of the Nationals
Country Liberals Senator for the Northern Territory

27 May 2009

The Hon Paul Henderson MLA
Chief Minister
GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Chief Minister,

The roll out of OPAL fuel in Central Australia has contributed to a significant reduction in petrol sniffing. Unfortunately incidents of petrol sniffing are still reported with people travelling to the few outlets that continue to sell sniffable fuel.

I am informed that the Outback Store in Ti-Tree will commence selling OPAL fuel within the next few weeks. While this will provide an opportunity to purchase non sniffable fuel the long term viability of this outlet will rely upon sales volume.

I am writing to ask you to consider making it NT Government policy that all NT Government vehicles requiring petrol in Ti-Tree only purchase OPAL when available.

While this initiative may have an anti-competitive aspect, the overall health outcomes in Central Australia will be improved if Outback Stores is able to become established as a viable OPAL fuel outlet. This will assist in the further roll out of OPAL in the region fuel and ideally providing added pressure on other outlets to convert to OPAL fuel only.

I urge you to consider this proposal and I look forward to your comments and other suggestions as to how all spheres of government may continue to move towards eradicating petrol sniffing from our community.

Yours sincerely

NIGEL SCULLION

Cc The Hon Karl Hampton MLA – Minister for Central Australia
The Hon Alison Anderson MLA - Minister for Indigenous Policy
Mr Adam Giles MLA – Shadow Minister for Indigenous Policy

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT**

Sub Program 1.1.2

Question No. 1

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 5 June 2009:

Provide, bracketed in five year intervals, the number of native title claims that remain unresolved in each State and Territory.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

As at 30 June 2009, drawing on data provided by the National Native Title Tribunal, the number of native title claimant applications that were not fully resolved are as follows:

Filing Period	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	NT	Total
1 July 2004 - 30 June 2009 (0-5 years)	8	4	36	20	4	21	93
1 July 1999 - 30 June 2004 (5-10 years)	5	8	59	25	1	125	223
1 July 1994 - 30 June 1999 (10-15 years)	19	4	40	51	16	13	143
Prior to 1 July 1994 (15+ years)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	32	16	136	96	21	159	460

To avoid double-counting, a claimant application which crosses a State or Territory boundary is counted only in the State or Territory in which the majority of the area covered by the application lies. There is no claimant application over any part of the ACT and the only claim that includes part of Tasmania lies predominantly in Victoria and is for this reason recorded as a Victorian claim.

Of the 460 claimant applications listed above seven applications have been determined but remain unresolved because a Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) has yet to be determined, for each of the relevant determination areas, by the Federal Court. Two further claimant applications have been determined but these determinations are yet to come into effect because they are conditional on a future event, such as the registration of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

A further 21 claimant applications have had a determination of native title made over part, but not all, of the area originally covered by the respective applications. These applications will be recorded as unresolved until a determination of native title is made over the entire area of the relevant claimant application.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT**

Sub Program 1.1.2

Question No. 2

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 5 June 2009:

(Let us look, then, at the assertions of some groups within Cape York that their land rights have been overridden by the Queensland government's intention to introduce wild river legislation including Mr Noel Pearson from the Cape York Institute.) What involvement does the Department have in the (Wild Rivers) process?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

None. The *Wild Rivers Act 2005* (Qld) is Queensland legislation and therefore a matter for the Queensland Government. However, the Department has monitored, and will continue to monitor, the debate regarding the Act, in particular the discussion surrounding Indigenous economic development.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT**

Sub Program 1.1.2

Question No. 5

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 5 June 2009:

What measures does the Government take to inform international companies about requirements under the native title system in industries such as mining?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Australian Government has a number of initiatives in place to inform international companies about requirements under the *Native Title Act 1993*. These include presentations, publications and subtitled DVDs.

National Native Title Tribunal

The National Native Title Tribunal has a range of publications, the majority of which are available on its website (www.nntt.gov.au/Publications-And-Research/Publications/Pages/default.aspx)

The Tribunal's website and web documents are regularly accessed from overseas Internet Service providers. Examples of publications dealing with mining on the website include:

- Steps from mineral exploration to a mine
- Mining, exploration and native title: the Commonwealth scheme
- Fast tracking the grant of some mining tenements
- Indigenous Land Use Agreements or the right to negotiate: a comparison for mineral tenement applications.

A DVD released in 2008 explaining the history and key concepts in native title, *15 years of native title*, was recently re-released with Chinese subtitles. This was to provide for the increased Chinese interest in Australia's mining industry. A DVD due for release in August 2009 explains the different processes involved when mining activity and native title interests over land intersect.

Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism

The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (RET) produces three publications that encourage mining and other resource companies to be aware of their potential responsibilities under the Native Title Act:

- 1) For international companies in particular, the publication *Minerals and Petroleum Exploration and Development in Australia - A Guide for Investors* outlines the processes and requirements of the Native Title Act. This Guide has been distributed at international fora and through the offices of Austrade.

- 2) Under the Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry, one of fourteen handbooks is *Working with Indigenous Communities*. This handbook outlines the statutory (including the Native Title Act) and institutional environment mining companies should consider and includes information on agreement making.

Both publications are available in printed copy and on the RET website (www.ret.gov.au/resources/Pages/Publications.aspx).

- 3) RET also produces a publication that provides advice on petroleum exploration, development and production in Australia that includes information on the Native Title Act. The publication, "*An overview for applicants*", is part of the annual offshore petroleum acreage release which provides an introduction to the Australian Government's framework for petroleum exploration, development and production in Australia. The publication is prepared by RET in consultation with other Australian Government agencies and the resources departments in the six States and the Northern Territory.

An electronic copy of this publication can be accessed on the RET website.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT**

Sub Program 1.1.2

Question No. 4

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 5 June 2009:

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Service (North Queensland) (ATSICLS) was awarded a 12-month contract by FaHCSIA to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal services from July 1 2008. Recently, the ATSICLS was criticised by the Member for Herbert, Peter Lindsey for shredding documents, holding unaccounted for assets and failing to keep an asset register. The Attorney-General's office was reported to be reviewing Peter Lindsey MP's accusations. What has been the outcome of this review?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Following the claims by Mr Peter Lindsay MP, the Attorney-General's Department appointed Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu (Deloitte), to undertake an examination of ATSICLS' financial transactions. Deloitte conducted this examination in August 2008 and the Department received Deloitte's final report on the audit findings on 18 September 2008.

The audit identified some concerns relating to financial management and controls within ATSICLS but did not substantiate the claim of misuse of funds.

The Department's contract with ATSICLS ended on 30 June 2008. A new provider, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Qld) Ltd was the successful tenderer to deliver legal aid services to Indigenous Australians in North Queensland and commenced delivering these services on 1 July 2008.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
Attorney-General's Department

Sub Program 1.1.2

Question No. 3

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 5 June 2009:

In relation to Night Patrols:

- a) The current night patrol program is carried out by Northern Territory Shire Councils and by Ironbark Employment and Training Inc. Which other councils or organisations, if any, will be funded for the additional eight external communities?
- b) How many times were police involved in incidents with service providers in 2008-09?
- c) The Current Operational Framework for the Night Patrol service expires at 20 June 2009. When will the government release a new Operational Framework?
- d) Will the financial and performance reporting requirements for service providers be changed in the new Operational Framework? What will the changes be?
- e) What is the reporting process from night patrols to police? Can the Government provide statistics on incidents reported?
- f) The Performance Indicators of each service provider include the Quantitative measures of: number of people assisted; number of people by gender; number of people by age; number of complaints received and number of complaints resolved. Does the Government aggregate these statistics across all service providers?
- g) Can the Government provide these statistics for each performance indicator for 2008-09 broken down by service provider?
- h) Can the Government provide these statistics for each performance indicator for 2008-09 broken down by service provider?
- i) How many indigenous persons are employed to work with night patrol service providers? What is the proportion of indigenous staff when compared to non-indigenous?
- j) Have any night service employees been charged for involvement in an incident during a patrol? Can you provide the details of these?
- k) Part of the qualitative measures for performance of service providers is the number of referrals to drug and alcohol services available in the community. How many people were referred to other drug and alcohol services in 2008-09 broken down by region?
- l) Can the Government provide statistics on the nature of incidents attended to by patrols in 2008-09 broken down by region?
- m) Did any night patrol service cease operation during 2008-09? If so, can the Government outline what the problems were with the particular service provider?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) Night patrol services in the Northern Territory will continue to operate in 81 communities under the *Closing the Gap – Northern Territory* measure. This includes the 73 communities prescribed under the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) and eight non-NTER communities. The eight non-NTER communities and their service providers are as follows.

Service provider	No. of communities
Roper Gulf Shire Council	2 (Mataranka and Booraloola)
Kalano Community Association	1 (Katherine town camps)
Tangentyere Council Incorporated	2 (Alice Springs town camps)
Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation	1 (Tennant Creek town camps)
Barkly Shire Council	2 (Elliott and Alpara)

- b) Service providers were not required to report on the number of incidents involving police. Performance indicator reporting for 2008-09 required service providers to provide a description of referrals to appropriate services, including to police. Types of incidents involving referrals to police include domestic violence, grog running, unregistered vehicles, driving without licences and fighting. Service providers report that patrols continue to work closely with police.
- c) The Department is currently revising the Operational Framework in consultation with service providers. The Department anticipates releasing a revised Operational Framework in October 2009. The current Operational Framework will continue to operate until the revised Operational Framework is released.
- d) Financial reporting requirements under the revised Operational Framework will be changed from half yearly reporting to quarterly reporting. This will bring the program in line with other Australian Government programs, providing increased transparency and accountability.

Performance reporting will remain on a quarterly basis. Performance Indicators have been revised following a whole-of-government reform process which focused on reducing red tape for Indigenous organisations. The report commissioned by the Office of Indigenous Policy and Coordination, *A Red Tape Evaluation in Selected Indigenous Communities* examined the administrative burden of government funding programs on Indigenous organisations and informed the reform process.

Performance indicators for Northern Territory night patrol services for 2009-10 will consist of qualitative and quantitative data e.g. number of people assisted, number of night patrols per week, rating of the extent to which services conform with night patrol service standards and rating of community stakeholder satisfaction with the service.

- e) Night patrols liaise with and provide information to police on an, as needs basis. However, no formal reporting process exists between night patrol services and the Northern Territory Police.

- f) The Operational Framework does not require night patrol services to report to police but does support night patrol services negotiating protocols with Northern Territory Police to assist with service delivery. Service providers report that night patrols liaise with police on operational matters and in some instances provide joint patrols.

To assist service providers to develop consistent protocols with police, the Department has been working with the Northern Territory Police to develop a standard MOU. The MOU was approved by the Northern Territory Police executive in July 2009. The Department will be working with the Northern Territory Police to implement the MOU across the Northern Territory.

The Department receives reports on night patrols services on a regular basis as required under the funding agreement.

- g) The Department did not aggregate statistics for service providers for 2008-09. 31 night patrols were active prior to 2008-09 and 41 night patrols were established within 2008-09. During this period a number of reporting issues were identified, namely the inability to consistently collect and maintain data and the lack of data integrity. The Department is working with service providers to address reporting issues.
- h) Due to identified reporting issues, the Department cannot provide statistical data in the format requested.
- i) Question (h) appears to be a duplicate of (g). An answer has been provided to that question above.
- j) Data provided in February 2009 indicated that 280 persons were employed to work with night patrol services. Of the 280 people employed, 270 persons were Indigenous and 10 persons non-Indigenous. Represented statistically, the proportion of Indigenous staff compared to non-Indigenous is approximately 96% Indigenous, 4% non-Indigenous.
- k) Night patrol employees are employed by the service provider and not the Department. The Department is not aware of any instances where night patrol employees have been charged for their involvement in an incident during a patrol.
- l) Service providers were required to provide a brief description of referrals to appropriate services such as drug and alcohol services and police. The number of referrals made was not a specific requirement under the funding agreement.
- Service providers have reported that not all communities have ready access to drug and alcohol services. In communities where drug and alcohol services do exist, service providers are establishing referral protocols.
- m) As noted, the Department has identified a range of reporting issues. The Department cannot provide statistical data detailing the nature of incidents attended by night patrols on a regional basis.
- n) No night patrol services funded by the Department ceased operation in the Northern Territory during 2008-09.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA001_10

Senator **Back** asked in writing.

Question

Hostel / Boarding Accommodation - Clontarf Aboriginal College

What is the Government's/Department's position on supporting indigenous education away from communities?

Answer

The Government has provided a substantial commitment to providing Indigenous students, wherever they live, but particularly those from remote areas, with quality and choice in education.

The 2009-2010 Budget provided \$20 million over three years to the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation to support its establishment of an endowment fund that is expected to support up to 2 000 Indigenous secondary students over the next 20 years, to attend high quality boarding schools.

This builds on the Government's already substantial commitment to scholarships delivered through the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program (IYLP). In the years 2006 to 2008, IYLP supported 232 secondary students to attend high performing schools (day and boarding, government and non-government) and 47 to attend university.

In 2009, 362 students (304 secondary and 58 tertiary) are in receipt of an IYLP scholarship. Students in receipt of these scholarships are generally from remote Australia and are studying at secondary schools approved for IYLP or universities across the country. The number of secondary scholarship holders is expected to increase to 306 in 2010, 476 in 2011 and 628 in 2012.

Each IYLP scholarship provides up to \$15 000 per annum for secondary students (primarily for boarding fees and tuition) and \$6 000 for tertiary students (as a contribution to their fees and other expenses). This is in addition to the student's entitlement to ABSTUDY or Youth Allowance. The value of IYLP scholarships will increase to up to \$16,250 per annum for secondary and to \$7,250 per annum for tertiary in 2010. Subsequent years will be indexed to maintain the real value of each scholarship.

The Australian Government has committed \$28.9 million over 4 years to build three new boarding facilities in the Northern Territory. These boarding facilities will accommodate students from Years 8 – 12 to provide secondary school age students with further opportunities to continue their schooling.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency **DEEWR**

DEEWR Question No. CA004_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure Initiatives

Are you aware of Clontarf Aboriginal College in WA – you may be aware that they were awarded \$10 million over 2009-12 to support students at football academies operated by the Clontarf Foundation in WA and NT – and are you aware of their bid for funding for hostel accommodation on adjoining land?

Answer

Clontarf Aboriginal College have recently had funding approved under the Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure program (IBIP) for construction of a 40 bed boarding facility.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency **DEEWR**

DEEWR Question No. CA006_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure Initiatives

Can you suggest alternative funding streams for this important project?

Answer

Please see answer to Question No. CA004_10.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency: DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA007_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Hear and Learn and LightSPEED Hearing Technology – Indigenous Ear Health

[Please note that the questions in italics below will be answered by DoHA – it is provided to DEEWR for background information]

Are you aware of the work of Hear and Learn, the Australian distributor of LightSPEED hearing technology which has been determined by National Acoustic Laboratories (a division of Australian Hearing) which concluded in 2003 that “this study supports the use of sound field amplification to advance the acquisition of literacy and numeracy skills for children in mainstream classrooms, and not only for those children with identified hearing loss or with ‘English as a second language’ backgrounds”?

Is DEEWR aware of any interest in adopting this technology for schools in Australia?

Answer

The Department is aware of the work of Hear and Learn in the provision of sound-field amplification systems.

The Government is investing \$14.7 billion over 3 years for the Building the Education Revolution (BER) program. Funding may be used for the fit-out of new buildings or refurbishments to the extent that it is necessary to make them operational for the purpose for which they are designed. This includes the provision of specialised audio equipment for indigenous children with hearing disabilities.

In addition, in the Kimberley where this has been identified as a priority, the Department is participating in a cross-sectoral project to support the supply of sound amplification in school classrooms and associated professional development. The Department is funding the installation of amplification systems to over 450 classrooms in Kimberley schools during 2009-10. This cross sectoral project will improve teaching/learning through collaboration between all Kimberley schools in the government, Catholic and independent sectors.

Under the *Schools Assistance Act 2008* (the Act), \$790 million has been appropriated for 2009–2012 for the Literacy, Numeracy and Special Learning Needs (LNSLN) Program. This will assist the most disadvantaged non-government school students, including students with disabilities. The Act ensures funding at least comparable to previous years for schools in the non-government sector.

The Department of Health and Aging (DHA), through the Office of Hearing Services' Hearing Loss Prevention Program support research and prevention projects to reduce the incidence of hearing loss. DHA currently has two research projects addressing issues concerning the management of Otitis Media in Indigenous children.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome: DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA008_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Hearing Technology to improve literacy and numeracy

This technology would advance the Government's commitment to indigenous education attainment and pursuit of improving literacy and numeracy – why build schools if kids can't hear? We need to address the fundamental issues.

Answer

In general, the selection of suppliers, installation and use of sound-field amplification systems to improve classroom acoustics are the responsibility of education authorities and individual schools.

The Government is investing \$14.7 billion over 3 years for the Building the Education Revolution (BER) program. Funding may be used for the fit-out of new buildings or refurbishments to the extent that it is necessary to make them operational for the purpose for which they are designed. This includes the provision of specialised audio equipment for indigenous children with hearing disabilities.

In addition, in the Kimberley where this has been identified as a priority, the Department is participating in a cross-sectoral project to support the supply of sound amplification in school classrooms and associated professional development. The Department is funding the installation of amplification systems to over 450 classrooms in Kimberley schools during 2009-10. This cross sectoral project will improve teaching/learning through collaboration between all Kimberley schools in the government, Catholic and independent sectors.

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The Department of Health and Aging (DHA), through the Office of Hearing Services' Hearing Loss Prevention Program support research and prevention projects to reduce the incidence of hearing loss. DHA currently has two research projects addressing issues concerning the management of Otitis Media in Indigenous children.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency: DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA009_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Are you aware that Hear and Learn and Lightspeed have been offered a free trial at Punmu – if this goes forward will you commit to monitor the outcomes of this?

Answer

The Australian Government is aware of the use of Sound-field amplification systems in schools but is not aware of the details of a trial at Punmu. Decisions about the uptake of technology in individual schools are for education authorities and individual schools.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome **DEEWR**

DEEWR Question No. CA012_10

Senator Siewert asked on Friday 5 June 2009, CA Hansard page 53.

Question

Senator Siewert – That is an increase from last time. When we were at the Senate Select Committee on Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities in Alice Springs a couple of weeks ago we met with a number of organisations and one of those was Waltja, who provide a number of childcare services. They said they have got a number of people that are still on CDEP, and I thought that those were some of the jobs that would have been converted to proper paid jobs. Do you know where those are up to – because I understood that there was a commitment by the government to convert, I thought, childcare jobs?

Answer

DEEWR provides funding through the Child Care Services Support Program to Waltja to deliver a mobile child care service in the APY Lands of South Australia.

Waltja confirmed on 25 June 2009 that it has five child care workers engaged to deliver this service and that none of these workers is a CDEP participant.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome **DEEWR**

DEEWR Question No. CA013_10

Senator Siewert asked on Friday 5 June 2009, CA Hansard page 53.

Question

Senator Scullion – Ms Hamilton, wherever the committee goes, when we deal with child care we say ‘Hi, anybody on CDEP?’ And 75 per cent say, ‘Me’. We then say, ‘But aren’t you supposed to be...’, and they say, ‘Yes, we heard that, but they have only provide two places,’ or ‘one place’, or whatever it is. It is a common theme, and perhaps we could have a question on notice that deals with all the Indigenous child care centres: how many people they employ and how many people are currently on a full Commonwealth salary, and how many people are still employed on CDEP?

Ms Hamilton – In relation to childcare positions specifically, we are looking at opportunities in both the Northern Territory and WA where we have some remaining funding from a previous 2007 budget measure. We are looking to fund up to 90 more childcare places specifically. That initiative is in the process of rolling out.

Senator Siewert – We will tag team here. I will just pick up from what Senator Scullion was asking about the childcare centres. As I am sure you are well aware, a lot of these services are actually travelling childcare services. There is not a childcare centre per se. If you could include that in answering the question, that would be appreciated. Thanks.

Answer

DEEWR provides funding to 275 Indigenous child care services through the Child Care Services Support Program, including 14 mobile child care services. DEEWR does not hold data on the number of people employed in those services.

As at 5 June 2009 a total of 268 CDEP positions had been transitioned to child care jobs in Commonwealth funded child care services. An additional 81 positions in QLD and WA from the package that was being considered at the time of the hearing will transition from 1 July 2009, plus 3 positions in QLD approved on 23 June 2009, bringing the total childcare jobs converted to 352.

These converted positions are as follows:

State	Number of Positions Conversions
NT	204
NSW	3
VIC	14
QLD	94
WA	8
SA	26
TAS	3

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome **DEEWR**

DEEWR Question No. CA015_10

Governance of Northern Territory Trials of the School Enrolment and Attendance Measure

Senator Siewert asked on Friday 5 June 2009 Hansard page CA61

Question

Mr Carters – We have got a memorandum of understanding with the Northern Territory government Department of Education and Training and also with the Catholic Education Office, so I would assume that we could provide that to you.

Senator SIEWERT – If you could provide that, that would be useful.

Answer

A memorandum of understanding governing protocols and implementation arrangements for the School Enrolment and Attendance Measure (SEAM) in the Northern Territory has been signed by the Australian Government and parties responsible for the operation of all schools in each of the six SEAM trial locations. Those parties are the Northern Territory Government, the Catholic Education Office of the Northern Territory and the Tiwi Education Board.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is currently seeking the agreement of each of the Northern Territory signatories to the provision of the document as requested by Senator Siewert. If all parties agree, a copy of the memorandum of understanding will be forwarded out of session to the Secretary of the Community Affairs Committee.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome **2**

DEEWR Question No. CA019_10

Senator Payne asked on 5 June 2009.

Question

Closing the Gap - Sporting Chance Program

Will funding made available in the 2009-10 Budget under the expanded Sporting Chance Program be matched by State Government funding or private investment? If not, why not? If yes, what discussions have been had with these possible sources of matched funding?

Answer

DEEWR provides on average some 36% of annual operational funding for school-based sports academy projects under the Sporting Chance Program. The balance of the funding is obtained by the provider from agencies such as state/territory governments, the corporate sector or sporting or philanthropic bodies. The provider undertakes all negotiations regarding the additional funding and provides written evidence of the support to DEEWR.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA021_10

Senator Payne asked on 5 June 2009, provided in writing.

Question

Closing the Gap - Sporting Chance Program

(a) Of the \$5m to be provided for “around 10” school-based sports academies focused on involving girls in sport, where will these academies be located?

(b) Can the department provide details about how it will establish these sports academies focused on girls, what steps have already been taken and the timeframes involved in this program?

Answer

(a) The location of academies focused on girls will be dependent on the outcomes of a call for funding applications round to be conducted in the second half of 2009.

(b) The school-based academies will be established following a call for funding applications round to be released in the second half of 2009. This will result in the execution of agreements by the end of 2009 with school-based academies to commence operations during Semester 1 2010.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA022_10

Senator Payne asked on 5 June 2009, provided in writing.

Question

Closing the Gap - Sporting Chance Program

What is the relationship between this new funding and the \$10m in funding announced by the Government in December 2008 for expanded Clontarf academies?

Answer

Projects under the funding announced in the 2009-10 Budget and projects under the \$10 million funding announced in December 2008 will all be managed under the Sporting Chance Program.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency 2

DEEWR Question No. CA002_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Indigenous Boarding Facilities

The following questions relate to a 2008-09 Federal Budget measure to allocate \$28.9 million for contribution to indigenous boarding colleges through the Department of Education, Science and Training.

1. How has this money been spent to date? Please provide a breakdown.
2. How have the identified projects been decided and by what criteria?
3. Where are these located?
4. As at the 30 June has the \$18.8 million allocated for 2008-09 been spent?
5. Will any left-over funding roll-over?
6. Are projects in metropolitan cities being considered?

Answer

1. How has this money been spent to date? Please provide a breakdown.

\$156,000 has been spent on a feasibility study.

2. How have the identified projects been decided and by what criteria?

The four short listed locations for possible Boarding Facilities were identified by the Australian Government in consultation with the Northern Territory Government as strategic education 'hubs' for the provision of senior secondary education.

3. Where are these located?

On 24 July 2008, the Minister announced the short-listed communities to be consulted at the Yirrkala Community Cabinet Meeting. The location of the three boarding facilities will be selected from four short listed regions, which include Wadeye, Warlpiri Triangle, East Arnhem and Maningrida. Possible extensions to existing facilities in locations such as Tennant Creek or Katherine would also be considered should funding permit.

4. As at the 30 June has the \$18.8 million allocated for 2008-09 been spent?

The Funds have been incorporated under the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000* to be spent over the period of 2009-2012. To date \$156,000 has been spent from the \$18.8 million allocated for the 2008-09 period.

5. Will any left-over funding roll-over?

Funds have been incorporated into the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000*, to be spent over the period 2009-2012.

6. Are projects in metropolitan cities being considered?

No.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency 2

DEEWR Question No. CA003_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure Initiatives

Western Australia presents unique challenges for non-indigenous and indigenous populations – as demonstrated by debate over changes to Youth Allowance which will disadvantage regional and rural students. Can you advise of what funds are being spent in WA on provision of hostel/boarding accommodation for indigenous students?

Answer

The following schools in Western Australia have had projects approved under the Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure program (IBIP).

Funding	School	Project Description
\$2 020 000	Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School, Gibson	Upgrade to existing boarding house.
\$1 641 000	Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre, Meekatharra	Upgrade to existing boarding house.
\$2 552 000	Clontarf Aboriginal College	Construction of a 40 bed boarding facility.
\$1 280 000	Catholic Agricultural College, Bindoon	Building new accommodation and renovating existing accommodation to an acceptable, modern standard. Significant electrical and plumbing infrastructure works.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency **2**

DEEWR Question No. CA020_10

Senator Payne asked on 5 June 2009, provided in writing.

Question

Closing the Gap - Sporting Chance Program

Of the \$5m to be provided to enlist Former Origin Greats to establish school-based academies in Queensland and NSW, can the department provide details about how it will go about this, what steps have already been taken, the timeframe for establishing these academies, and where they will be located?

Answer

Contract negotiations are complete for Former Origin Greats Queensland (FOGS) to commence the establishment phase of their project, with operations to commence in schools Term 1 2010. The project will operate in close partnership with Education Queensland in schools to be selected from South East Queensland. The project will be managed as part of the Sporting Chance Program.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA005_10

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Hostel Accommodation

In view of the tyranny of distance which separates students living in regional and rural areas from educational institutions whether it is high school or tertiary particularly in WA – it appears the hostel accommodation is a key ingredient in providing for indigenous education. Why not fund similar accommodations in metropolitan Perth?

Answer

Indigenous people in Western Australia, particularly those in rural and remote areas, can access support to attend post-secondary education through a number of initiatives:

- a number of boarding schools in Perth, in addition to full fee paying places, offer scholarships for Indigenous students
- 10 schools in Perth are approved through the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program in 2009. The participation of schools may grow over 2010 - 2012. Through this program the Australian Government offers scholarships of up to \$15,000 per annum for Indigenous students, mainly from remote areas to attend high performing schools.
- 91 students from rural and remote areas of WA have received scholarships through IYLP since 2006 to study at schools in Perth and in other states and territories. DEEWR anticipates that more than 80 Western Australian students will be in receipt of an IYLP scholarship in 2010, growing to more than 120 in 2011 and over 155 in 2012.
- investment in boarding infrastructure upgrades and new boarding facilities has been prioritised in recent years (see CA002_10).
- Aboriginal Hostels Limited operates 16 hostels across Australia for secondary school students including the one at Clontarf College in Perth.
- In WA the Country High School Authority provides access to quality schooling through country residential colleges in nine regions - see <http://www.det.wa.gov.au/countryboarding/>
- the Indigenous Youth Mobility Program provides accommodation for over 300 Indigenous young people to relocate from rural and remote areas to one of 17 participating major centres across Australia, including Perth (32 places on any given day available over 2009 – 2012), Port Hedland (16 places) and Broome (16 places) in Western Australia. These young people aged 16 – 24, undertake apprenticeships, TAFE or university study and receive mentoring, career advice and practical help dealing with barriers to them gaining the qualifications they need for jobs back in remote areas or elsewhere.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA010_10

Senator Siewert asked:

[Mr Carters – I have understood the question but we will have to take it on notice because we do not have the figures here. But to help you, from memory about 25 Indigenous specific specialist organisations will be part of Job Services Australia.....]

Senator Siewert - Could you also tell me how many of those are existing [2008-09] CDEP organisations. I presume you know what I mean by that. They are the ones that were running CDEP and were then encouraged to apply. Please tell me how many of the 25 are in that category.

[Mr Carters – Yes we will take that on notice.]

[Ms Caldwell – We will take on Notice the subset of the successful Indigenous organisations that have tendered for Job Services Australia who were former CDEP or are continuing CDEP providers.]

Answer

A full list of organisations contracted as Indigenous specialist Job Services Australia stream service providers is at Question CA011_10.

The table below lists the subset of successful Indigenous organisations contracted to deliver Job Services Australia stream services and that are former or continuing CDEP providers.

Indigenous organisations contracted as Job Services Australia providers who are former or continuing CDEP providers	Employment Service Areas
1. Aboriginal Corporation for Employment and Training#	Clarence NSW, Coffs Harbour NSW
2. Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation#*	Pilbara WA
3. Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation#*	Top End NT
4. Bunjum Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd#	North Coast NSW
5. Central Queensland Indigenous Development Ltd#*	Mt Isa QLD, Bundaberg QLD
6. Marthakal Homeland and Resource Centre Association#*	Top End NT
7. Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation#	Kimberley WA
8. Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation#*	Far West NSW, Gwydir Namoi NSW, Oxley NSW
9. Ngurrala Aboriginal Corporation#	Coffs Harbour NSW
10. Nooda Ngulegoo CDEP Aboriginal Corporation#*	Goldfields/Esperance WA
11. Tangentyere Council Incorporated#*	Alice Springs NT
12. Taree Indigenous Development and Employment Ltd#	Manning NSW
13. Walhallow Aboriginal Corporation#	Keepit NSW
14. Yabur Yulgun CDEP Aboriginal Corporation#	Richmond NSW, Tweed NSW

Indicates provider is contracted as Indigenous specialist provider

* Indicates provider is also a CDEP provider from 1 July 2009.

In addition to the above, there are also non-Indigenous organisations that are former or continuing CDEP providers and that have been contracted to deliver Job Services Australia stream services. The following table lists these organisations:

Other organisations contracted as Job Services Australia providers who were former CDEP or are continuing CDEP providers	Employment Service Areas
1. Griffith Skills Training Centre Incorporated#*	Gwydir Namoi NSW, Richmond NSW
2. Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd*	Alice Springs NT, Bundaberg QLD, Canterbury/Bankstown NSW, Cairns QLD, Central Coast NSW, Central Western Sydney NSW, Darwin NT, Fairfield NSW, Far North QLD, Hastings NSW, Hunter NSW, Inner Western Sydney NSW, Katherine NT, Lower Hunter NSW, Mackay QLD, Manning NSW, Mt Isa QLD, Nepean NSW, North Coast NSW, Outer Western Sydney NSW, Richmond NSW, Top End NT, Townsville QLD, West and North West TAS, Wollongong NSW
3. Joblink Plus Ltd	Gwydir Namoi NSW, Hunter NSW, Keepit NSW, Lower Hunter NSW, New England NSW, Orana NSW, Oxley NSW, Upper Hunter NSW
4. MADEC Australia	Kadina/Clare SA, Mid Murray VIC, Murray Darling NSW, Murraylands SA, Riverland SA, Southern Adelaide SA, Sunraysia VIC
5. Mareeba Shire Job Training Association Incorporated#	Cairns QLD

Indicates provider is contracted as Indigenous specialist provider in one or more locations.

* Indicates provider is also a CDEP provider from 1 July 2009.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA011_10

Senator Siewert asked:

Question

When you give me the clarified list of specialised Indigenous service providers, could you also tell me the location.

Answer

Job Services Australia delivers individualised assistance to all job seekers. Indigenous job seekers receive quality services based on their individual needs, whether they are serviced by a generalist or a specialist Job Services Australia provider.

The table below lists the organisations contracted as specialist Indigenous Job Services Australia stream service providers. The table shows the Employment Service Area(s) from which the specialist service is provided. Specialist providers can also accept referrals of interested job seekers from outside their local Employment Services Area.

Job Services Australia provider name	Employment Service Areas
1. Aboriginal Corporation for Employment and Training	Clarence NSW, Coffs Harbour NSW
2. AC Employment Services Pty Ltd	Macleay NSW, Manning NSW
3. Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation	Pilbara WA
4. Baptist Care (SA) Inc	North Country SA, Port Lincoln/Ceduna SA
5. Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	Top End NT
6. Break Thru People Solutions	Central Coast NSW, Outer Western Sydney NSW, Plenty VIC, Townsville QLD
7. Buderoo Limited	Capricornia QLD, Gladstone QLD
8. Bunjum Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd	North Coast NSW
9. Central Queensland Indigenous Development Limited	Bundaberg QLD, Mt Isa QLD
10. Central West Community College Limited	Lachlan NSW, Macleay NSW
11. Complete Personnel SA Pty Ltd ATF Complete Personnel SA Unit Trust	North Country SA
12. Employability (Cental Murray) Inc	Mid Murray VIC
13. Gannambarra Ltd	South Eastern NSW
14. Griffith Skills Training Centre Inc	Gwydir Namoi NSW, Richmond NSW
15. Groote Eylandt Bickerton Island Enterprises	Top End NT
16. Job Futures Ltd	Darwin NT, Kimberley WA, Sturt NSW, Top End NT
17. Mareeba Shire Job Training Association Incorporated	Cairns QLD
18. Marthakal Homeland and Resource Centre	Top End NT

Job Services Australia provider name	Employment Service Areas
Association	
19. Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation	Kimberley WA
20. Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Limited	Far West NSW, Gwydir Namoi NSW, Oxley NSW
21. Ngurrala Aboriginal Corporation	Coffs Harbour NSW
22. Nooda Ngulegoo Aboriginal Corporation	Goldfields/Esperance WA
23. Peedac Pty Ltd	Midlands/Wheatbelt WA, North Metro WA
24. Tangentyere Council Incorporated	Alice Springs NT
25. Taree Indigenous Development and Employment Ltd	Manning NSW
26. Teldraw Pty Ltd	Nepean NSW
27. UCA Assembly Limited	Manning NSW
28. Walhallow Aboriginal Corporation	Keepit NSW
29. Yabur Yulgun CDEP Aboriginal Corporation	Richmond NSW, Tweed NSW

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA23_10

Senator Payne asked:

Question

- (i) Will an Indigenous Employment Program (IEP) service be located in every community in which CDEP will cease?
- (ii) Can the department provide a list of all IEP locations?
- (iii) If not, what support services and employment services will be readily available to those unemployed Indigenous people who as of 1 July will cease their CDEP employment, and are living in towns without IEP or Community Support Services?

Answer

- (i) The objective of the reformed IEP is to increase Indigenous Australians' employment outcomes and participation in economic activities, contributing to the Government's commitment to halve the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous employment outcomes within a decade.

The reformed IEP is a flexible project-based program able to be tailored to the requirements of employers, Indigenous Australians and Indigenous communities. The program does not require a permanent and continuous presence in any one location. Projects are funded as needs are identified and proposals which help to support the IEP's objective and offer value for money are received.

While a permanent IEP service will not be located in every community, all communities can access the program as required.

The reformed IEP complements the services delivered by other mainstream programs including Job Services Australia.

- (ii) On 19 June 2009 there were 1795 separate contracts in place for the main IEP elements which have a contract end date of 1 July 2009 or later. A breakdown of their locations by the State or Territory which manages the contract is provided below.

	NSW/ACT	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	NT	Total
Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP)	121	48	64	66	35	9	48	391
STEP Employment and Related Services	57	14	78	21	13	5	21	209
Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF)	41	10	23	6	3	2	10	95
Emerging Indigenous Entrepreneurs Initiative (EIEI)	7	1	8	8	8	2	10	44
National Indigenous Cadetship Project (NICP)	127	19	247	105	25	13	98	634
Wage Assistance	180	50	93	39	14	23	23	422
Total	533	142	513	245	98	54	210	1795

It would only be possible to identify more details about each project's location by undertaking a manual review of each contract.

(iii) From 1 July 2009, Indigenous job seekers who cease CDEP employment have, as a minimum, access to Australian Government employment services and related assistance through Job Services Australia, the Disability Employment Network and Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

Under Job Services Australia, job seekers have increased support through Streamed Services, including an enhanced face-to-face contact regime, individual Employment Pathway Plans and assistance tailored to their level of need.

As well as tailored job search support and work experience, job seekers have greater access to training and skills development opportunities, including accredited training under an expanded Productivity Places Program in areas of skills shortage.

The Employment Pathway Fund provides access to funds to support and assist job seekers improve their job readiness and address non-vocational barriers. In addition, unlike the previous employment services where programs like the Personal Support Program and Disability Employment Network had capped places resulting in some of the most disadvantaged job seekers being placed on wait lists, access to Stream Services under Job Services Australia is completely demand driven.

Two extensive rounds of joint FaHCSIA, DEEWR and Centrelink community information sessions were undertaken during April and May and again during June and July 2009 in CDEP communities around Australia. The information sessions aimed to ensure CDEP participants were aware the changes to CDEP and employment services and how the changes would impact on them. Advice was provided on how people affected by CDEP closures and reductions could move seamlessly to an appropriate income support payment, such as Youth or Newstart Allowance or Parenting Payment.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA024_10

Senator **Payne** provided in writing.

Question

CDEP

- a) Can the department clarify whether these jobs will be available in those areas now classified as remote or non-remote?
- b) If some or all of these jobs are located in non-remote areas, how many, and where are they (by state and community)?
- c) When will the jobs become available?
- d) How will the jobs be allocated?

Answer

- a) The location of jobs will depend on where government services have been subsidised by CDEP and whether these translate into ongoing sustainable positions. These will be in both remote and non-remote locations.
- b) It is expected that up to 1,280 jobs in Federal Government services and up to 720 jobs in local government service delivery will be created. Jobs will be funded in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and, for Australian Government-service delivery, in Tasmania. Jobs in the Northern Territory were previously funded under the NT Jobs Package.

Data on actual jobs funded and filled will be collected by Commonwealth and State Governments once the process is completed.
- c) Most service providers will be funded to provide jobs from 1 July 2009, although jobs may commence earlier in some sectors.
- d) Jobs are allocated where government services have been subsidised by CDEP and the role is sustainable.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome/Agency **Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

DEEWR Question No. CA014_10

Senator Siewert asked:

Question

I am wondering if it is possible to get figures on where the 4,000 are and where the specialised Aboriginal service providers are located. Is that possible? Then we can have look at how many people, if they choose to access the specialised services, can access those specialised services.

Answer

Data at end June 2009 indicate the actual number of CDEP participants affected by CDEP closures or reductions was 2319. All these former CDEP participants reside in an area where a Job Services Australia provider is contracted to deliver services.

There were 1339 affected CDEP participants who lived in an Employment Service Area (ESA) where at least one Job Services Australia provider is contracted to deliver Indigenous specialist services. These specialist services are in addition to generalist Stream Service available in all locations, and other specialist services, which may also be available.

The table below identifies the ESAs in which the residential addresses of the 2319 former CDEP participants were located. An asterisk is used to identify the ESAs in which the 1339 former CDEP participants have access to Indigenous specialist services.

State	Residential ESAs of CDEP participants affected by CDEP closures
Queensland	Bundaberg*, Cairns*, Far North Queensland, Fraser Coast, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Logan, Mt Isa*, North Brisbane, South Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Townsville*, Warwick, Western Downs
Victoria	East Gippsland, Goulburn Valley, Latrobe Valley, Monash, Sunraysia
Western Australia	Goldfields/Esperance*, Midlands/Wheatbelt*, Mid West and Gascoyne, North Metro*, Pilbara*, Southern
NSW	ACT/Queanbeyan, Chifley, Clarence*, Coffs Harbour*, Eurobodalla, Fairfield, Far West NSW*, Gwydir Namoi*, Hastings, Hunter, Lower Hunter, Inner Sydney, Keepit*, Lachlan*, Macarthur, Manning*, Macleay*, Murray Darling, Nepean*, New England, North Coast*, Orana, Outer Western Sydney*, Oxley*, Patterson, Richmond*, Tweed*, Shoalhaven, South Eastern*, Southern Ranges, Sturt*, Windamere, Wollongong
South Australia	Murraylands, North Country*

Note: The residential ESA of former CDEP participants is based on address postcode of the former participant at time of data extract. Residential postcode may not always reflect actual residential location of job seeker.

* Indicates Indigenous specialist JSA provider(s) has been contracted in the ESA

Question

The other issue that I would like to follow up is where they are going to non specialised Aboriginal service providers, where they are going to the more general service providers, and where those providers are in fact new providers, rather than established providers. If you could.

Answer

Job Services Australia delivers individualised assistance to all job seekers. Indigenous job seekers receive quality services based on their individual needs whether they are serviced by a generalist or a specialist Job Services Australia provider. Specialist job seekers can choose whether to access an available generalist or specialist provider.

When a job seeker registers for employment services through Centrelink, a list of JSA providers servicing the job seeker's area is presented to the job seeker for selection. The listing includes information about the various providers' specialities, as relevant. Which JSA provider a job seeker chooses is a matter for the individual job seeker. An Indigenous job seeker may or may not choose to be serviced by an Indigenous specialist provider.

Data for end July 2009 indicate that 1717 job seekers who were affected by CDEP closures were registered with Job Services Australia. Of those job seekers registered with Job Services Australia:

- 330 were registered with an Indigenous specialist. Of these job seekers:
 - 297 were registered with a new Indigenous specialist, and
- 1387 were registered with a generalist provider or another specialist provider. Of these job seekers:
 - 1289 were registered with an established generalist provider
 - 88 were registered with a new generalist provider, and
 - 10 were registered with a non-Indigenous specialist.

Nineteen organisations that were CDEP providers in 2008-09 have been contracted to deliver Job Services Australia Stream Services. Of these, 16 are providing specialist Indigenous Stream Services.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No. CA018_10

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

Closing the Gap – Northern Territory – Enhancing Education – Teacher Housing

- a. When will construction begin on the 22 houses funded under the Budget item 'Closing the Gap – Northern Territory – Enhancing Education – Teacher Housing' and when will it be completed?
- b. Where will the houses be built?
- c. What agreements have been reached so far with the Territory Government and the non-government school sector on their contributions to this housing?
- d. If no agreements have been reached yet, what discussions have been had with these two parties, and how long is it expected to take before agreements are reached?
- e. Have either the Territory Government or the non-government school sector provided assurances that they will in fact contribute to the construction of these 22 houses?
- f. Is it expected that only one teacher will live in each of the houses built, or will this be shared accommodation? If it is shared, how many teachers is it envisaged will live in each house?
- g. Of the 200 Additional Teachers the government has committed to provide to Indigenous Communities over four years from 2008, how many will be provided with a house?
- h. How many of these 200 additional teachers have already been placed in communities? Of these, how many have been provided with houses?
- i. If there are more teachers placed in communities than houses provided, how are these extra teachers being accommodated?

Answer

- a. Construction will commence as soon as possible. The Department is aiming for all houses to be built by 30 June 2010.
- b. DEEWR is working with the Northern Territory Department of Education and Training (DET) and the Northern Territory Catholic Education Office (CEO) to determine the locations of the houses. All houses will be built in remote locations.
- c. As part of its Closing of the Gap suite of measures announced in August 2007, the Northern Territory Government agreed to commit an additional \$42.3m over 5 years for staff housing in remote communities.
- d. Not applicable as agreement has been reached.
- e. The NTG will be responsible for on-going repairs and maintenance for teacher housing for DET schools. The CEO will be responsible for ongoing repairs and maintenance for teacher housing for their schools.
- f. Accommodation built will be one, two and three bedroom houses or duplexes. Decisions regarding whether teachers share accommodation is an NT DET matter and they advise that this will vary from community to community.
- g. It is not possible to estimate how many of the 200 teachers will be provided with a house. It will depend on where the teachers are placed and what existing or new

- accommodation is available. Where possible, they will be provided with their own accommodation.
- h. As at 30 June NT DET and CEO advise that a total of 97 additional teachers have been placed in communities. All are living in their own accommodation or in shared accommodation or in accommodation on loan from other departments or the community.
 - i. Teachers will be placed where there is accommodation available – either their own accommodation or in shared accommodation or in accommodation on loan from other departments or the community.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency 2 / DEEWR

DEEWR Question No. CA016_10 & CA017_10

Senator Mason asked on 5 June 2009, DEWR Hansard page 63 - 64.

Question

Northern Territory School Attendance as a function of population (extracts from Hansard below to provide context)

Mr Carters—There is still a lot of information that is available and as I said estimates could be used to split that figure and from there you could draw the conclusion about the population of Indigenous school age children in the Northern Territory and what percentage are attending school. You would not get a precise figure, but certainly you could reach a reasonable estimate.

Senator MASON—Indeed, I think you could. Will you do your best to do that so perhaps it could be actuarially verified for next time? Could you take that on notice?

Mr Carters—We will take that on notice and do our best, yes.

Senator MASON—So can you make an estimate again? What the committee needs is some indicator so that we can make an assessment of the fruit of these policies. It is a very legitimate question and if you agree on my premise about attendance best being as a function of age cohort and not enrolment—and we agree on that—we need that information to make a proper assessment of outcomes so we need the department to do as much as they can. Can you take that on notice as well?

Mr Carters—We will take that on notice, and because it is estimates we will also need to clear that through ministers as well.

Answer

An analysis of the data suggests that a reasonable estimate would be that enrolments and attendance, as a proportion of all Indigenous children (5 to 14 years) based on 2006 Census data across the Northern Territory, have risen. The estimated enrolment as a proportion of the ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) increased from 85% to 87% and the estimated attendance as a proportion of ERP increased from 63% to 65% over 2006-2008, as shown in Table 1.

Caution should be exercised when interpreting the above results. Only reasonable estimates of attendance and enrolments can be provided because of the methodology and the extent of variability within and across three separate data collections. Population projections were applied and assumptions had to be made to form estimates and there are particular reliability issues connected with data collections from remote locations.

Table 2 shows the actual numbers and percentages reported and estimates derived from the published figures, with the process detailed in the footnotes.

The ABS Census in 2006 reported 12,674 Indigenous children aged 5-14 years resident in the NT. Consistent with its normal practice of addressing the Indigenous undercount in the census, the ABS subsequently estimated the resident population figure as 14,658.

The MCEETYA National Schools Statistics Collection for 2006 reported 10,393 Indigenous 6-15 year olds enrolled in government schools in the NT and 1,994 in non-government schools.

The total reported enrolment of 12,387 would thus be 84.5% of the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of Indigenous 5-14 year olds.

The NT Department of Education and Training reported the 6-15 year old Indigenous attendance rate of 72.4% in government schools in 2006. The reported attendance rate for 2007 and 2008 remained essentially unchanged, with enrolments of 10,902 in 2007 and 11,329 in 2008.

Non-government school enrolments of Indigenous 6-15 year olds in the NT were reported as 2,103 in 2007 and 2,275 in 2008. An attendance rate of 83% was estimated in the National Report on Schooling in Australia, 2007.

The ABS currently has no estimate for the NT Indigenous 5-14 year old population in 2007 or 2008. Applying a growth of 1.9% (the average NT population growth over the 5 years to June 2008), one could approximately estimate the relevant population figures as 14,937 for 2007 and 15,520 for 2008.

Table 1: Summary of data from Table 2 on estimated NT Indigenous 5-14 year old population, school enrolment and school attendance.

Year	ERP 5-14 yr old Indigenous	Total Enrolments	Enrolment /ERP calculation	Enrolment /ERP	Gov school attendance	Non - Gov school attendance	Total Attendance	Attendance /ERP calculation	Attendance /ERP
2006	14,658	12,387	<i>12,387/14,658*100</i>	<i>85%</i>	72.4%	<i>83%¹</i>	<i>9,180</i>	<i>9,180/14,658*100</i>	<i>63%</i>
2007	<i>14,937</i>	13,005	<i>13,005/14,937*100</i>	<i>87%</i>	72.4%	83%²	<i>9,638</i>	<i>9,638/14,937*100</i>	<i>65%</i>
2008	<i>15,520</i>	13,604	<i>13,604/15,520*100</i>	<i>87%</i>	72.3%	<i>83%³</i>	<i>10,079</i>	<i>10,079/15,520*100</i>	<i>65%</i>

LEGEND:

All data shown in **BOLD** is data as reported, sources footnoted.

All data shown in *ITALICS* are estimates based on the assumptions detailed in footnotes.

¹ No 2006 attendance rate is available for non-Government NT schools. The only published rate (83%, 2007) is used here on the assumption that there is little variation between attendance rates year to year.

² Non-government attendance rate for Indigenous students, 2007, is based on Tables 39 and 41, National Report on Schooling in Australia, 2007 (p44 and p46). 2007 is the only year for which non-government attendance rates are available.

³ No 2008 attendance rate is available for non-Government NT schools. The only published rate (83%, 2007) is used here on the assumption that there is little variation between attendance rates year to year.

Table 2 : Estimated number of Indigenous children in the NT aged 5 to 14 years, their enrolment and attendance levels in Government and non-Government schools⁴, 2006, 2007 and 2008

Year	Population ⁵	ERP ⁶	Gov't school enrolments ⁷	Gov't school attendance		Non-Gov't school enrolments ⁸	Non-Gov't school attendance		Total Enrolments	Total Attendance
				Rate ⁹	No. ¹⁰		Rate	No.		
2006	12,674	14,658	10,393	72.4%	<i>7,525</i>	1,994	<i>83%</i> ¹¹	<i>1,655</i>	12,387	<i>9,180</i>
2007	<i>12,915</i> ¹²	<i>14,937</i> ¹³	10,902	72.4%	<i>7,893</i>	2,103	83% ¹⁴	<i>1,745</i>	13,005	<i>9,638</i>
2008	<i>13,160</i> ¹⁵	<i>15,220</i> ¹⁶	11,329	72.3%	<i>8,191</i>	2,275	<i>83%</i> ¹⁷	<i>1,888</i>	13,604	<i>10,079</i>

LEGEND:

All data shown in **BOLD** is data as reported, sources footnoted.
All data shown in *ITALICS* are estimates based on the assumptions detailed in footnotes.

⁴ ABS population data is grouped by 5 to 14 year olds but the compulsory school age in the NT is 6 to 15 years. The age cohort of 6 to 15 year olds from National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC) has been used as a proxy for comparison with population data (5 to 14 year olds).

⁵ ABS Census of Population and Housing 2006

⁶ Estimated Residential Population (ERP), calculated to finalise all components of population change. ERP is normally higher than the census count at the national level.

⁷ MCEETYA National Schools Statistics Collection (Schools Australia), Government school enrolments in the NT 2006, 2007 and 2008 (full time Indigenous students aged 5 to 14 years)

⁸ MCEETYA National Schools Statistics Collection (Schools Australia), non Government school enrolments in the NT 2006, 2007 and 2008 (full time Indigenous students aged 5 to 14 years only for purposes of comparison with ABS data scope).

⁹ NT DET data collection, Collection 2, 2006 (Government schools only)

¹⁰ Attendance number is calculated as the reported attendance rate multiplied by the reported enrolment number.

¹¹ No 2006 attendance rate is available for non-Government NT schools. The only published rate (83%, 2007) is used here on the assumption that there is little variation between attendance rates year to year.

¹² 2007 population projection based on 1.9% average annual population growth in the NT for the five years to June 2008.

¹³ 2007 ERP projection based on 1.9% average annual population growth in the NT for the five years to June 2008.

¹⁴ Non-government attendance rate for Indigenous students, 2007, is based on Tables 39 and 41, National Report on Schooling in Australia, 2007 (p44 and p46). 2007 is the only year for which non-government attendance rates are available.

¹⁵ 2008 population projection based on 1.9% average annual population growth in the NT for the five years to June 2008.

¹⁶ 2008 ERP projection based on 1.9% average annual population growth in the NT for the five years to June 2008.

¹⁷ No 2008 attendance rate is available for non-Government NT schools. The only published rate (83%, 2007) is used here on the assumption that there is little variation between attendance rates year to year.

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs – Cross Portfolio Indigenous Issues

Answers to questions on notice

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

Budget Estimates, May 2009

Outcome:	5	Question No:
Output:	5.1	
Division/Agency:	Arts Division	
Topic:	Closing the Gap – Strengthening Australia’s Indigenous Visual Arts Industry – Additional Funding	
Hansard Page :	Written Question on Notice	

Senator Payne asked:

1. To which states, communities and art centres will the additional funding for the Indigenous visual arts industry be distributed?
2. If this has yet to be determined, how will decisions about distribution of the funding be made?
3. What discussions with stakeholders – including but not limited to State Governments and Indigenous arts bodies – have already taken place on this funding?
4. Pages 15-16 of the Ministerial Statement on Closing the Gap refer to “at least 30 professional development projects” that will be supported annually under the program. For the purposes of this program, what is a professional development project, and how will the 30 be selected?

Answers:

1. Additional funding will be delivered principally through the National Arts and Craft Industry Support (NACIS) program, which is a competitive grants program with funding proposals decided by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts. Details of additional funding for 2009-10 have not yet been announced. Successful proposals will be posted on the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) website once they have been announced.
2. Please see the response to Part 1.
3. The additional funding provides increased operational support for Indigenous visual arts centres, as well as support for professional development and training for the sector, reflecting key issues identified in the report of the Senate Inquiry into Indigenous Visual Arts. The Senate Inquiry process involved extensive consultations with stakeholders across the sector. The Australian Government is continuing to discuss these issues with state and territory government arts agencies through the Cultural Ministers Council (CMC) Standing Committee forum, particularly to identify areas of priority for professional development and training.

4. Professional development projects will involve targeted training for Indigenous visual arts centre staff with a principal focus on business management, administration and governance skills, but may also include training in artistic practice and related issues where relevant. DEWHA is currently developing the guidelines, including eligibility and assessment criteria, in relation to these projects. The allocation of the funding will be a matter for decision by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts.

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5 JUNE 2009**

Human Services Portfolio

Department/Agency: Centrelink

Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: CA1

Type of question: Hansard CA 18-19, 5 June 2009.

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 July 2009

Question:

Senator SIEWERT—Previous figures were showing that the number of Aboriginal people that were being breached had significantly increased through the previous welfare-to-work reforms. I am interested in knowing if that figure has changed. Given that the new employment reforms have only just taken place, I suspect you have still got figures from the old process that could give us a bit of an idea.

Ms Gaha—The new process has not started, so we are still using the old process. I am pleased to be able to report that the number of Indigenous people who now have serious failures has dropped quite dramatically. That is because of a process that Centrelink put in place where an Indigenous cultural adviser—one of our Indigenous staff—has been used as a consultant whenever an Indigenous person was at risk of becoming a serious failure or being breached as you put it. So the numbers have reduced to 283 as at 1 May, and that is proportionately smaller than the numbers in the participation population of Centrelink.

Senator SIEWERT—Could you provide me with a breakdown by state? If you can do it now, that would be great. If not, could you take it on notice for me. That would be much appreciated.

Ms Drayton—We will have to take that on notice. We will get that to you as soon as we can.

Answer:

The figure of 283 serious failures applied in the week ending 1 May 2009, as quoted by Ms Jo Gaha during the Committee hearing (page CA19, Hansard) was incorrect. The correct year to date figure as at 27 March 2009, of serious failures that have been applied to Indigenous job seekers is 949.

Centrelink does not collect management information about these failures at a state level. Information is collected by the appropriate Centrelink Area. Some Centrelink Areas have catchment areas across state boundaries.

The number of Indigenous identified job seekers who have incurred a participation or serious failure from 1 July 2008 to 27 March 2009 is shown in the table below.

	Eight week non-payment periods	All APPLIED participation failures	All APPLIED serious failures
Sydney East	75	649	32
Sydney West	155	1,007	67
Hunter	209	1,495	110
South West NSW	167	1,209	79
Pacific Central	104	989	45
South East QLD	202	1,033	113
South West QLD	222	1,251	121
Central & North QLD	104	1,546	54
South East VIC	22	218	< 20
North Central VIC	45	396	< 20
West VIC	39	440	< 20
West Australia	55	397	23
North Australia	88	2,197	43
South Australia	177	1,334	94
Tasmania	55	397	23

Source: W2W report R23TWKD-20090327, R28TWKB-20090327

Note: Numbers less than 20 are not directly reported as this may enable a customer or group of customers to be identified.

Number of pages: 2

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5 JUNE 2009

Human Services Portfolio

Department/Agency: Centrelink

Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Senator: Scullion

Question reference number: CA 2

Type of question: Hansard, CA 20, 5 June 2009.

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 July 2009

Question:

Senator SCULLION—We are looking at a trend, if the people are now not being breached. I want to know if the reason they are not being breached is simply because we are lowering the bar. Of course that would happen, but that is not in anyone's interest. So that is why I would like to perhaps drill down into that and have some numbers about when they are being breached. Is it because of a communications issue? I think it might be useful for all of us to know the reasons why they are being breached and put them into maybe two or three general areas: either through nonattendance, noncommunication or an issue in the workplace. There must only be three or four principal areas. I think it would be very useful if we could that broken down into those areas; plus those numbers that would have been breached had it not been for the intervention and some of the issues around that.

Dr Harmer—We will try to get you some information.

Ms Drayton—We can certainly get you information on the first part of that question and we will look into whether we track the information about the outcomes after Indigenous consultation. We can certainly do the first part of that.

Answer:

The answers are presented in a table format over the page.

The five most recommended reasons Participation Reports were lodged for investigation by Employment Services Providers relating to Indigenous identified job seekers from 1 July 2008 to 27 March 2009 are listed below. These reasons account for over 95 per cent of all Participation Reports lodged by Employment Services Providers.

	Failed to Attend Interview with Job Network Member	Failed to Comply with terms of Activity Agreement with Job Network Member	Unsatisfactory Attendance - Work for the Dole project	Failed to attend a Work for the Dole interview	Unsatisfactory attendance at Full-Time Work for the Dole Activity
Sydney East	1,694	426	125	117	34
Sydney West	2,636	1,059	248	136	134
Hunter	3,154	586	446	262	164
South West NSW	2,963	491	338	294	118
Pacific Central	2,421	554	308	183	113
South East QLD	1,925	844	226	140	138
South West QLD	2,856	1,049	247	213	102
Central & North QLD	7,714	1,083	908	709	443
South East VIC	647	120	41	31	< 20
North Central VIC	1,230	134	121	72	42
West VIC	1,112	133	102	74	32
West Australia	7,959	2,272	400	550	152
North Australia	6,691	634	1,047	644	229
South Australia	3,418	435	288	279	115
Tasmania	778	169	83	63	34

Source: W2W report R50TWKD-20090327

Note: Numbers less than 20 are not directly reported as this may enable a customer or group of customers to be identified.

The five most recommended reasons Participation Reports were lodged by Employment Services Providers, relating to Indigenous identified job seekers, for whom a failure was applied after an investigation from 1 July 2008 to 27 March 2009 are listed below. These reasons account for over 95 per cent of all participation failures applied from those lodged by Employment Services Providers.

	Failed to Comply with terms of Activity Agreement with Job Network Member	Failed to Attend Interview with Job Network Member	Failed to attend a Work for the Dole interview	Unsatisfactory Attendance - Work for the Dole project	Unsatisfactory attendance at Full-Time Work for the Dole Activity
Sydney East	157	434	26	32	< 20
Sydney West	343	664	23	69	29
Hunter	238	1,053	86	185	57
South West NSW	159	917	88	123	31
Pacific Central	185	764	46	105	28
South East QLD	342	613	44	68	33
South West QLD	372	781	55	90	29
Central & North QLD	243	1,434	120	140	25
South East VIC	43	165	< 20	< 20	< 20
North Central VIC	47	310	< 20	29	< 20
West VIC	43	336	< 20	43	< 20
West Australia	614	1,996	120	102	25
North Australia	174	1,733	165	296	< 20
South Australia	161	1,009	85	106	37
Tasmania	80	255	< 20	26	< 20

Source: W2W report R50TWKD-20090327

Note: Numbers less than 20 are not directly reported as this may enable a customer or group of customers to be identified.

Centrelink is unable to collect management information on the number of participation or serious failures that would have been applied if not for the intervention by an Indigenous Services Officer or other appropriate specialists.

Number of pages: 3

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5 JUNE 2009

Human Services Portfolio

Department/Agency: Centrelink
Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1, Output 1.1
Topic: Income Management

Senator: Siewert
Question reference number: CA3
Type of question: Hansard CA 20, 5 June 2009
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 July 2009

Question:

CA3: Mr Tidswell—Senator Siewert, I have an answer to the earlier question that you asked in relation to staffing numbers. You asked for a comparison between the base level of staff you have got in the Northern Territory and what we put on as a result of the income management suite of proposals. We have approximately 472 staff working across what we call area north Australia—that includes all of the Northern Territory into Western Australia and the Kimberleys and a little slice of the top end of South Australia. And in the Northern Territory income management teams we have about 190 staff.

Senator SIEWERT—In income management?

Mr Tidswell—Across the income management suite of issues.

Senator SIEWERT—Can I just double check that you will provide on notice the break down of the 2009-10 money that is allocated to the income quarantine?

Mr Tidswell—We have not done that work yet, but we will provide that on notice.

Answer:

Closing the Gap					
Northern Territory Income Management - Measures					
2009-10 Funding					
	NTER Income Management	Basics Card	Sustainable Service Delivery	Income Management Replacement Card Project	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Total	\$63,456.6	\$10,994.3	\$7,886.8	\$5,920.0	\$88,257.7

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