

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 19 October 2009

Question: PM1(a-d)

Topic: Health and wellbeing of staff

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009

Number of pages: 2

a) Of the health and wellbeing programs offered to employees in 2008-09 (see answer to question on notice PM36c from May Budget Estimates), which ones are still operating?

PM&C has continued to offer the following programs to staff:

- fitness classes
- flu vaccinations
- work/life links; and
- Employee Assistance Program.

b) Are there any new programs on offer since May 2009?

Two new programs have been introduced since May 2009. Further fitness classes were introduced in July 2009 and H1N1 Influenza (swine flu) vaccinations were offered to staff in November 2009.

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c) How many employees are currently participating in each program and at what cost?

The table below provides details of the number of staff participating in current health and wellbeing programs and the cost to the Department.

Programs currently operating	Number of employees participating	Cost (\$) to Dept
Fitness Class (circuit and boxing, July 09 – Sept 09)	23	Nil
Fitness Class (Yoga) (July 09 – Sept 09)	33	Nil
Fitness Class (circuit and boxing, Sept 09 – Dec 09)	17	Nil
Fitness Class (Yoga) (Sept 09 – Dec 09)	31	Nil
Mental Health Awareness (Oct 09)	30	\$120
H1N1 influenza (swine flu) vaccinations (Nov 09)	approx 300	\$4565
Quit Smoking Initiatives	2	\$600
Work-life Links	3	\$1043
Employee Assistance Program (1 July 2009- 30 September 2009)	8	\$7623

d) Has there been a rise or fall in employee absenteeism since 30 April 2009?

The average number of personal leave days taken by an employee has remained static since 30 April 2009.