

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

INQUIRY INTO SOCIAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DRUG TESTING TRIAL) BILL 2019

PUBLIC HEARING 2 OCTOBER 2019

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Staff in trial sites

Question reference number: QoN 4

Member: McCarthy

Type of question: Hansard pages 51-52

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 October 2019

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Ms Mitchell: I understand that the mandatory training will be rolled out to all service staff in the trial sites and it will be optional for any other staff in the department.

Senator McCARTHY: How many staff is that?

Ms Mitchell: I'd have to take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: Okay, could you take on notice: how many staff in the trial site; how many are undergoing the mandatory training; and how many are opting for mandatory training, putting themselves forward, in other areas, not in the trial sites.

Ms Mitchell: I probably won't be able to answer the third part of that question, but certainly I can tell you how many staff we will have in the trial sites, and it will be mandatory for all of them.

Answer:

The table below provides the total ongoing and non-ongoing APS employee headcount for Face to Face Services staff in the specified sites as at 31 August 2019.

Total Ongoing and Non-Ongoing APS Employee Headcount* as at 31/08/2019				
Division	Site: Canterbury Bankstown (includes Bankstown and Campsie)	Site: Logan (includes Beenleigh, Browns Plains and Woodridge)	Site: Mandurah	Total APS Headcount* as at 31/08/2019
Face to Face Services	93	113	31	237

*Headcount: the actual number of all Ongoing and Non-ongoing (including Intermittent/Irregular) employees at a point in time, includes employees on leave without pay and secondment.

All 237 face to face staff in the trial sites will receive the following mandatory general training packages:

- Substance Misuse Measures Overview
- Drug Testing Trial Introduction
- Appointments and Attendance Overview
- Appeals and Re-tests.

Staff in the trial sites who will be authorised to update appointments will receive the following additional mandatory training packages:

- Understanding Drug Use in Australia
- Appointment and Attendance Detail
- Administration and Updates

This number is yet to be determined. It is estimated that 70% of staff in the trial sites will receive this training.

Staff who will be conducting interviews in the trial locations will also receive the following mandatory training in addition to the seven packages listed above.

- Conducting the Pre-Test Interview
- Managing Conversations.

This number is yet to be determined. It is estimated that 50% of staff in the trial sites will receive this level of training.

Selected staff outside these sites will be trained as required to assist in trial sites should they be needed.