

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 1

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** Was the minister going there to open a facility as part of a routine visit or was he actually going for consultation?

**Mrs Field:** I would have to take that on notice. My understanding is that it was actual consultation, but I would need to clarify that.

**Answer:**

The proposed reforms were a key part of discussions during the Ministerial visits listed in the document titled 'Consultations on the transition from RJCP to CDP' as tabled by the Department at the hearing on 8 September 2017.

Other matters may have been discussed and other events attended as part of standard Ministerial travel arrangements.

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**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** McAllister

**Question reference number:** 2

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**CHAIR:** If I can just ask a follow-up: in the past when we've had discussions with PM&C about consultation, I've been struck—and I'm sorry to have to raise this again—by the lack of adequate record keeping about consultation. A record is often kept of the fact that a meeting took place, but the content or nature of the discussion is not recorded. Does the department have records of the consultations that took place in this list you're providing?

**Mrs Field:** I'll have to take that on notice.

**CHAIR:** Was there a process of documentation at the time?

**Mrs Field:** I'd have to take that on notice.

**CHAIR:** Mr Tongue, do you know?

**Mr Tongue:** I was not part of the department at that stage, and I would have to take that on notice. My expectation is that we will have high-level records of conversations. Certainly the Forrest review was very well documented. But I'm happy to take it on notice and provide the committee, looking back to 2015, with what we kept account of.

**Answer:**

The reforms were rolled out carefully and methodically with Departmental officers taking detailed notes at the consultations. The findings of these discussions were summarised and used in support of policy advice.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Senator Lines

**Question reference number:** 3

**Type of question:** Interpreters

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** Did you or the minister use interpreters in any of these meetings?

**Mrs Field:** Yes. It's PM&C policy particularly when we're conducting consultations to use interpreters.

**Senator LINES:** Could you give us that list as well?

**Mrs Field:** Yes. I'll take it on notice and get that to you.

**Answer:**

PM&C has a practice of engaging Indigenous language interpreter services during the early design and delivery of new programmes, which is promoted through the *Protocols for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the use of Indigenous language Interpreters*. The Aboriginal Interpreter Service (AIS) was engaged during consultations on the CDP.

In addition to interpreter service providers, the Department has an extensive regional network where local staff, including several Indigenous Engagement Officers who speak local languages, ensure all meeting settings are appropriate. This includes timing, materials, language and cultural considerations.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 4

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

I presume there was a more complete list—'consultation sessions with providers in the Kimberley region'. That's a bit broad. Yes, if you could take on notice who you met with...

**Answer:**

Consultation sessions were held with all RJCP providers during the transitioning from RJCP to CDP. RJCP providers in the Kimberley region included:

<b>RJCP Region Name</b>	<b>Organisation Name</b>
Kullarri Region	Kullarri Regional CDEP Inc
Fitzroy Valley Region	Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation
Halls Creek/Tjurabalan Region	East Kimberley Job Pathways
Derby/Gibb River Region	Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation
East Kimberley Region	East Kimberley Job Pathways

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 5

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** ...And then, just to follow up a point the chair made, I note that on the minister's engagements there are lots of visits that start with the word 'visit'. I'm wondering whether you can tell us whether that was a political visit or indeed a consultation. I'm happy for you to take that on notice. And then there's an address to the national RJCP provider conference. I'm not quite sure how that's a consultation, so perhaps you could come back on notice.

**Mrs Field:** I think I can clarify that now. The minister would have addressed it, but the department would have held consultations during that provider business meeting with providers around the design of CDP and how that was going to be implemented. That's what this conference is for.

**Senator LINES:** I just think it's a little bit confusing to have a bit of paper given to us as evidence—'consultations on the transition' and then have you tell us that actually the address was not a consultation. So I think we need to be clear. Senator McCarthy asked specifically about consultations and again there's another address by the minister to the Central Land Council. So, perhaps you could clarify whether that was indeed an address or a consultation.

**Mr Tongue:** Certainly.

**Senator LINES:** Can you clarify that now or do you need to take it on notice?

**Mrs Field:** We'll take it on notice.

**Senator LINES:** Thank you.

**Answer:**

Consultations on reforms to the Remote Jobs and Communities Programme (RJCP) are listed in the 'Consultations in the Transitions' document. These include Ministerial visits to discuss portfolio issues however other matters may have been discussed and other events attended as part of standard Ministerial travel arrangements.

At the RJCP Provider Business Meeting the Minister outlined key components of the new arrangements including the approach to compliance and performance. Subsequently the department went into detail on aspects of the new model and held panel sessions and a workshop session. Feedback from providers at this Provider Business Meeting informed the design and implementation of the CDP.

The Minister's consultation with the Central Land Council including an address to the Full Council, a question and answer session and meetings with individual Central Land Council Full Council members.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Senator McCarthy

**Question reference number:** 6

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator McCARTHY:** What would your employment target be for a place like Yuendumu?

**Mrs Field:** I would have to take that on notice. I don't have all the employment targets on me at the moment.

**Mr Denny:** But we can certainly give that to you. We have a target for each region.

**Senator McCARTHY:** Would that be under the 61 regions? Is that what you mean?

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Senator McCARTHY:** So you would have different employment target numbers for each of those regions?

**Mr Denny:** Correct.

**Mrs Field:** That is right.

**Mr Denny:** I don't have the numbers off the top of my head but some might be as high as 100 and some might be as low as 10, depending on the labour market, the strength of the labour market, and what businesses are in that region.

**Senator McCARTHY:** And you've come to that conclusion as a result of ABS figures?

**Mr Denny:** Correct.

**Mrs Field:** ABS figures, and looking at some of the remote labour market data. We are noting that the program has been in place for two years. We are reviewing that methodology at the moment to ensure that it's accurate and that it's clearly reflected. So we're going through that review process at the moment.

**Senator McCARTHY:** Could we have the list?

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Senator McCARTHY:** Of not only the 61 but obviously your KPIs here...

**Answer:**

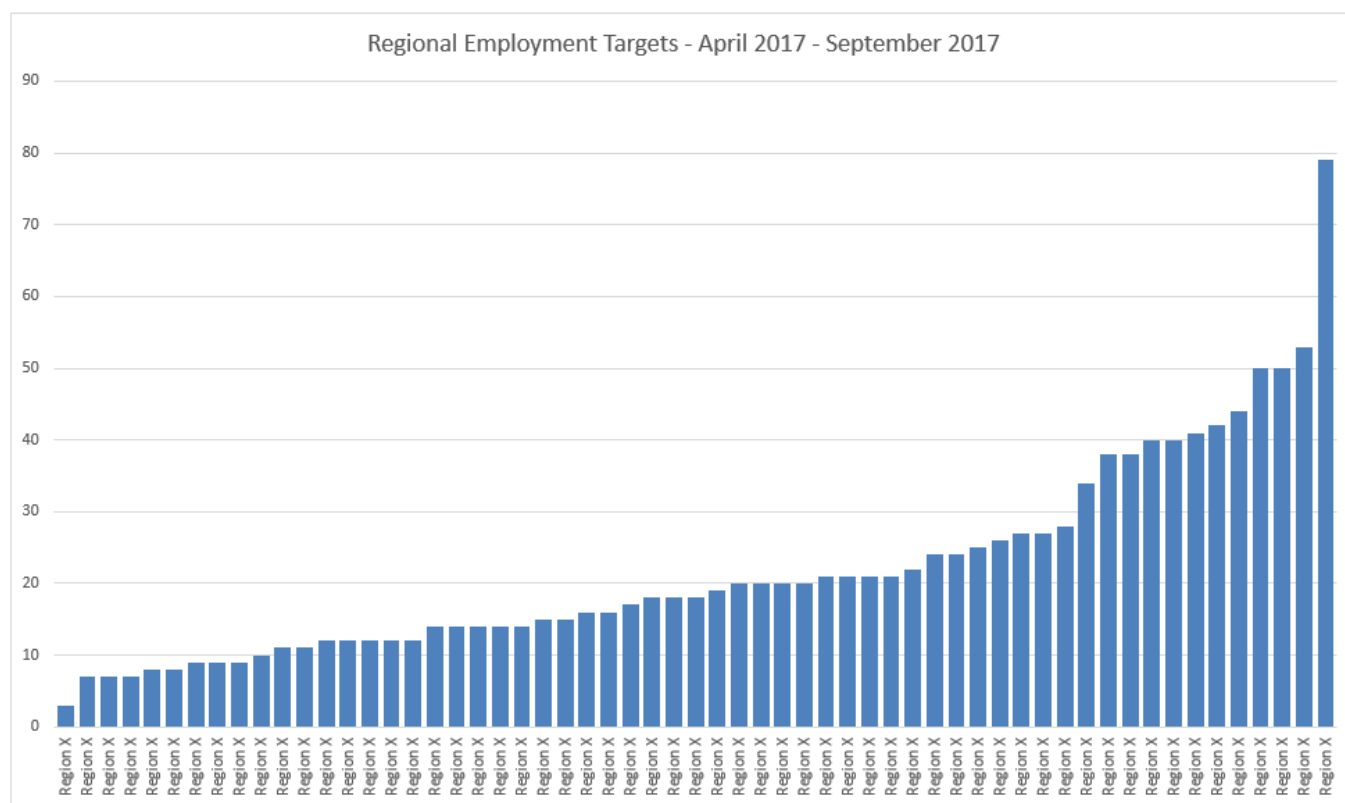
As part of the Programme Management Framework each Community Development Program (CDP) Provider is provided with a Regional Employment Target (RET) against which its performance is assessed. The RET sets the required number of eligible job seekers who achieve 26 week employment outcomes during a specific six month period. RETs are individually set to ensure that they take account of the specific demographic, labour market and economic circumstances of each region.

When determining a region's RET, the following factors are considered:

- previous performance;
- performance in comparable CDP regions;
- current and future labour market opportunities;
- seasonality in the labour market;
- job seekers disadvantage and concentration of all job seekers in the region; and
- discreteness of region and opportunities for mobility.

The RETs for each CDP region are outlined in the table below. These have been de-identified in line with CDP Data Protocols to protect the commercial operations of CDP Providers.

### **Regional Employment Targets**



\* Note - in April 2017 news provider began delivering services in two CDP regions. No Regional Employment Targets were set for these two regions for the April 2017 - September 2017 period.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Paterson

**Question reference number:** 7

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 4

**Question:**

**Senator PATERSON:** We've covered it a little bit in opening statements and some questions, but just for absolute clarity, I've got a few questions I want to have on the record. Perhaps take us through the different employment outcomes of the current CDP as it is today, compared to the program it replaced—the Remote Jobs in Communities program.

**Mrs Field:** At the moment we have two outcome payments that are provided to providers. We have a clear expectation, as we've discussed, that a provider will support a jobseeker to be placed in a job. Then what happens is that if that jobseeker retains that job placement for 13 weeks we provide an outcome incentive payment to the provider for that, and then if that jobseeker is actually able to retain that job for 26 weeks we then provide another outcome payment for that. Under RJCP there was a range of different payments—there were around 13 or 14 but I don't have the detail here—but they were very unclear with the way those incentives work. They had a different mix of support payments and a number of different payments. I'd have to take that on notice on the actual detail.

**Senator PATERSON:** Yes, if you could take that on notice...

**Answer:**

The CDP has four payment types that are directly linked to the program's objectives:

	<b>Payment Type</b>	<b>Amount (GST Exclusive)</b>		<b>Basis of Payment</b>
	<b>Service Payments</b>	<b>Monthly Payment</b>	<b>Maximum Annual Payment</b>	
1	Basic Services Payment	\$333.33	\$4,000	Payments to providers for delivering basic services to job seekers (such as regular reviews of skills, and barriers, and support to prepare for work).
2	CDP Activity Outcome Payments	\$1,037.50	\$12,450	Payments to providers pro-rated based on job seekers' engagement in work-like

				activities.
	<b>Outcome Payments</b>	<b>At 13 weeks</b>	<b>At 26 Weeks</b>	
3	Employment Outcome Payments – Partial/Full	\$1,125/\$2,250	\$2,625/\$5,250	Payments to providers for assisting job seekers to stay in long term work, at 13 and then 26 weeks
4	Employer Incentive Funding Payment – Partial/Full	n/a	\$3,750/\$7,500	Payments to employers for retaining job seekers in long term work, at 26 weeks

The RJCP had 14 payment types that covered commencement in the RJCP, placing job seekers in jobs, employment, education and participation outcomes, these are;

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Duration of the Outcome Period</b>	<b>Outcome Payment (GST Exclusive)</b>
	<b>Employment Outcomes</b>		
1	<b>7 week</b>		
	Full	Any 7 weeks of employment over a maximum of 14 consecutive weeks	\$1,000 for job seekers with partial work capacity \$750 for all other job seekers
2	<b>13 week</b>		
	Full	Any 13 weeks of employment over a maximum of 26 consecutive weeks	\$3,000 for job seekers with partial work capacity \$2,250 for all other job seekers
	Pathway	Any 13 weeks of employment over a maximum of 26 consecutive weeks (partial outcome)	\$500
3	<b>26 week</b>		
	Full	Any 26 weeks of employment over a maximum of 52 consecutive weeks	\$3,000 for job seekers with partial work capacity \$2,250 for all other job seekers
	Pathway	Any 26 weeks of employment over a maximum of 52 consecutive weeks (partial outcome)	\$1,000
	<b>Education Outcomes</b>		
5	Commencement	Commencement of a Certificate I (or higher) qualifying course or	\$250

		school re-enrolment	
6	Completion	One semester of secondary school or an education program or a completion of a Certificate II course (or higher)	\$2,500

7	<b>Participation Outcome</b>		
	Completion	As required to complete a non-vocational intervention	\$350

8	<b>Job Placement Payments</b>	Amount (GST Exclusive)
	Placement in a job of 15-49 hours over no more than 10 working days for a job seeker with partial capacity to work or with partial participation requirements	\$350
	Placement in a job of at least 50 hours over no more than 10 working days	\$500

	<b>Activity Payment Type</b>	<b>Quarterly Payment (GST Exclusive)</b>	<b>Amount per annum (GST Exclusive)</b>
8	New commencements during first 12 months in the RJCP (including those transitioning from JSA, DES and CDEP)	\$625	\$2,500
9	CDEP Wages management	\$102.27	\$409.09
10	After each 12 months in the RJCP	\$500	\$2,000

	<b>Type of Credit</b>	<b>Job Seekers</b>	<b>Amount (GST Exclusive)</b>	<b>When Credited</b>
11	Initial credit	All eligible job seekers, except partial work capacity job seekers	\$2,500	On commencement in the RJCP
12		Partial work capacity job seekers	\$3,000	On commencement in the RJCP
13	12 months of activity credit	All eligible job seekers including partial work capacity job seekers	\$2,000	Once the job seeker has participated in 12 months of RJCP Activities conducted by the RJCP Funding Recipient

14	<b>Remote Youth Leadership and Development Corps</b>	<b>Amount (GST Exclusive)</b>
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	<b>Payments</b>	
	Payment for each Youth Corps place, in addition to any applicable RJCP Activity and Outcome Payments. Payments made in two instalments, over 12 months, linked to the number of places filled, retention in the program and the quality of activities provided.	\$7,000

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Senator Paterson

**Question reference number:** 8

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

**Senator PATERSON:** Obviously, CDP is a model that relies on providers to deliver the program, and I assume not all providers are equal. I assume there are some providers which are higher performing than others. Does the department keep a measure of the relative performance of providers in the program?

**Mr Denny:** Yes, we do internally. We generally don't make that public, but we do have a scoring system, so each provider will get a score and that formal performance assessment I was talking about. But generally we don't make that public.

**Senator PATERSON:** What's the reason that it's not made public?

**Mr Denny:** I guess to some degree there are some commercial in-confidence provisions there.

**Mrs Field:** Under this program, it's a contestable funding agreement, so we go to market around providers, and some of the performance information is commercial-in-confidence, particularly as into the future we'll have to retest the market and the provision of that type of information could put certain organisations at an advantage through any kind of market testing.

**Mr Denny:** And I guess we haven't really seen a strong argument for releasing it. If we've got performance concerns, I guess our strategy so far has been to work with that provider and address those performance issues directly.

**Senator PATERSON:** Sure, and I don't want to in any way make that task more difficult and impact on the integrity of the procurement process or anything like that, but how do we know, for example, as senators, that there isn't a massive disparity between a high-performing provider and a low-performing provider?

**Mr Denny:** Sorry—how do we know there's a disparity?

**Senator PATERSON:** You may know; I don't know. It would worry me, for example, if it was the case that there are excellent providers out there doing really good work and there are not very good providers out there and there's a big difference between the quality of their work. But obviously I don't have that information, so what assurance can you give me that that doesn't happen—that they are all performing well and that the performance management strategies you've got are able to bring them all up to a relatively even keel?

**Mrs Field:** I'm happy to take it on notice. We can maybe provide you the graph of where the providers are but de-identify the providers so you can see the spectrum of performance across our provider cohort.

**Senator PATERSON:** That would be perfect, thank you.

**Answer:**

The Provider Performance Review 3 (PPR3) results for each CDP region are outlined in the table below. These have been de-identified in line with CDP Data Protocols to protect the commercial operations of CDP Providers.

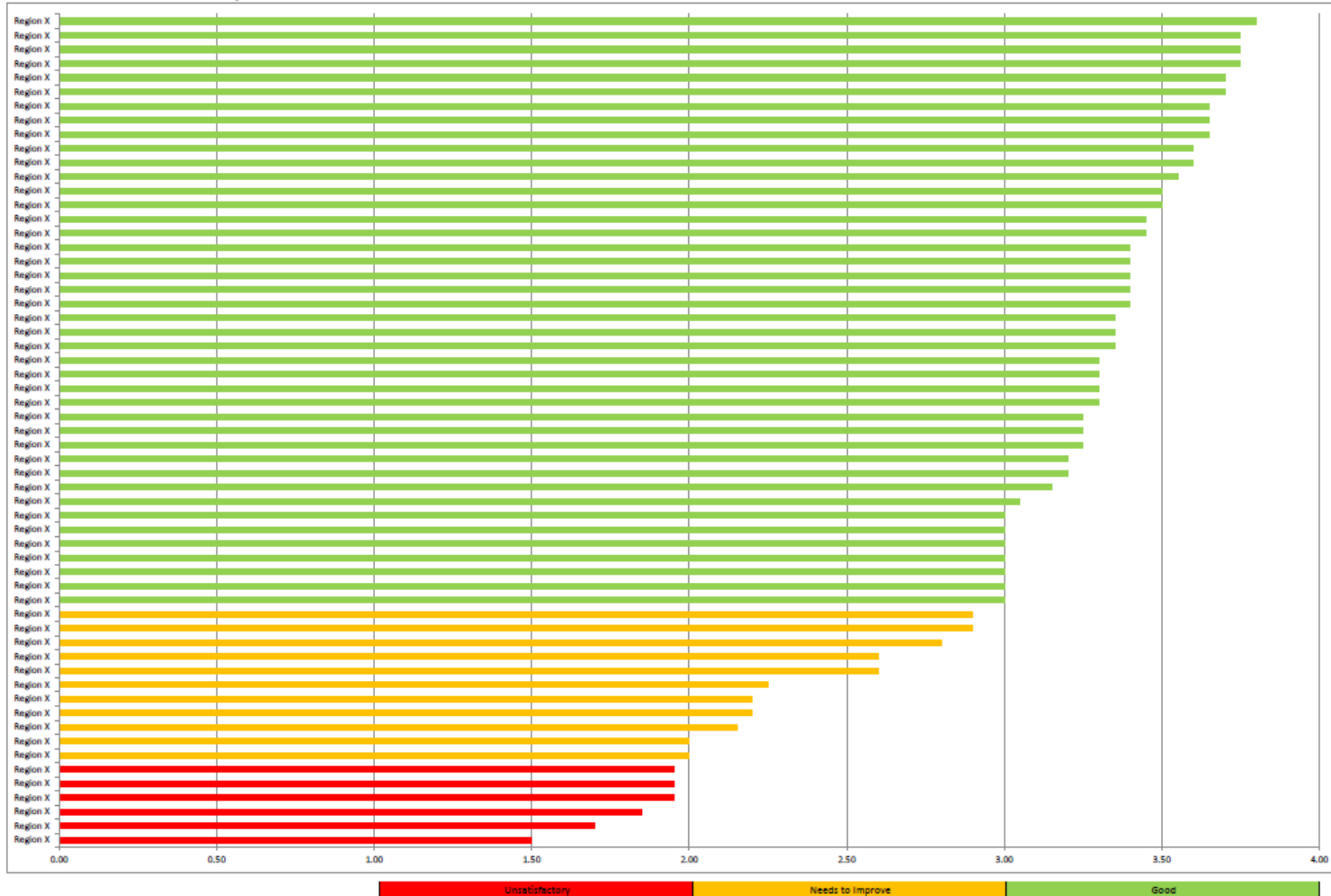
The CDP Programme Management Framework outlines the scoring system used in PPR3:

- providers who achieved a score of 4.00 received a rating of 'Excellent'
- providers who achieved a score of 3.00-3.99 received a rating of 'Good'
- providers who achieved a score of 2.00-2.99 received a rating of 'Needs to Improve'; and
- providers who received a score of 0.00-1.99 received a rating of 'Unsatisfactory'.



# Provider Performance Review 3 (PPR3) results by CDP region

Provider / Region names redacted



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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question reference number:** 10

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator SIEWERT:** I will come back to the admin one in a minute. On the eight communities, are you able to tell us which communities and how they were selected? ...

**Senator SIEWERT:** How were they selected?

**Mr Johnson:** My understanding is the process for selection was to try to get a set of communities that had different outcomes—so some where there was some evidence of them going quite well, some where there was some evidence that they may not have been going as well—and different sizes. It was to try to get a representative sample, as best as we could, with a small number of communities.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Did you select those or did the—Sorry, I am trying to remember. It starts with a W—

**Mr Johnson:** Winangali?

**Senator SIEWERT:** Winangali, yes.

**Mr Johnson:** I will have to take that on notice. My understanding is it would have been in combination with both us and them, but I will take that on notice just so I can make sure...

**Answer:**

The communities were selected jointly by the consultants, Winangali-Ipsos, and the Department.

An initial list of possible sites was identified by the Department using a sampling frame to ensure diversity on a range of factors. These factors included:

- provider performance against KPIs (including the percentage of the caseload placed in activities, attendance at Work for the Dole activities, and the quality of Work for the Dole activities);
- whether or not the provider was an Indigenous organisation;
- percentage of the provider caseload that was Indigenous;
- community population size;
- level of remoteness of the community;
- proportion of the community population that were Indigenous; and
- strength of the labour market.

The final set of sites was then determined with the consultants.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** McAllister

**Question reference number:** 12

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**CHAIR:** Thanks, Senator Siewert. I have a quick question, which is just a follow-up on the deputy chair's line of inquiry about participation rates. The committee received evidence from Dr Fowkes, whom I think you probably know. She observes that, at the time when participation was reported to be at seven per cent, it was not mandatory for CDP providers to report participation and that that mandatory reporting on daily participation was phased in over a six-month period. Is that correct?

...

**CHAIR:** You were unequivocal in your answers to Senator Paterson. He asked you whether you were aware of any alternative explanations or doubt about that seven per cent number and you unequivocally said no. You're telling me that there may be some doubt about the advice you provided earlier. I am wondering why that is.

**Mrs Field:** There's no doubt. It was the reported attendance rate at the time for attendance and nonattendance.

**CHAIR:** Except that there were no financial penalties in place if reporting it did not take place from the CDP providers' perspective.

**Mrs Field:** That is correct.

**CHAIR:** So it is equally possible that the seven per cent transformation is actually just a change in the reporting requirements rather than a change in participation.

**Mrs Field:** I will take that on notice.

**Mr Denny:** I will also clarify that providers were required to record in exactly the same way as they do now. The difference that Mrs Field was referring to is in how we pay providers in that first six-month period. But, in recording daily attendance in the system, it was exactly the same from 1 July as it is today. So the data is the same.

...

**CHAIR:** But you can't tell me with any real certainty whether that increase represents an actual increase in attendance or an increase in reporting, can you?

**Mrs Field:** We expected with daily reporting from 2015, as Mr Denny has outlined—

**CHAIR:** Are you confident that every CDP provider was providing comprehensive reporting on the day that that seven per cent number was compiled?

**Mr Denny:** We would have to—

**Mrs Field:** Take it on notice.

**Answer:**

Since the beginning of the program, providers have been required to provide full and accurate records of the conduct of services, including the recording of attendance. These arrangements have not changed since the Community Development Programme commenced on 1 July 2015. Reported attendance and valid non-attendance was 7 per cent in July 2015.

If this requirement is not adhered to, the Department may issue a breach notice and recover any funds paid based on inaccurate records. In the most serious cases the Department may terminate the funding agreement.

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**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 13

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** I have a number of questions, but I have one in particular about the issue of daily attendance. In Kalgoorlie, we heard evidence from a woman from Mulga Queen who is a CDP participant. She said that she would get a penalty for coming to the Senate inquiry because she wasn't doing her activity—whatever that might have been.

**Mrs Field:** There are a range of ways a jobseeker can contact the Department of Human Services and provide notice that they have to travel for a certain reason. That's taken into account around mutual obligations, and an assessment is made. It's not a matter of fact that, if they came to this inquiry, that would be a breach.

**Senator LINES:** Is that something you can answer, Mr Bennett, on behalf of Miss Vanessa Thomas from Mulga Queen?

**Mr Bennett:** Certainly there would be circumstances that we would consider, as was just mentioned. It is open to the person to contact us before they travel to explain their reasons. We would go through that in terms of the avenues that were available.

**Senator LINES:** You have it on transcript that she was at the hearing, so we wouldn't expect her to be penalised, as we said to her on the day...

**Answer:**

Miss Vanessa Thomas is employed as a supervisor with the CDP Provider and was not on the CDP caseload in August 2017 therefore she could not have been breached.

Further, the CDP Provider has confirmed that job seekers were not advised they would be penalised for attending the hearing. In this scenario, a job seeker would have a valid reason for non-attendance and there would be no penalty.

Under Social Security Law, job seekers will not be penalised for not attending CDP activities where they have a valid reason. If the CDP Provider considers the job seeker does not have a valid reason, they report non-compliance to the Department of Human Services (DHS).

DHS, not providers, are responsible for making all decisions relating to penalties under Social Security Law. Prior to deciding whether a penalty should apply, DHS contacts job

seekers to understand why the job seeker did not attend and then make an assessment on whether the job seeker has a valid reason for failing to meet their requirements.

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 15

**Type of question:** Question on Notice

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Part A**

What role can Community Development Programme (CDP) providers play to support the provision of housing works in remote Indigenous communities?

**Part B**

What are the arrangements in the Kurrawang community?

**Answer:**

*National Partnership for Remote Housing (NPRH) and CDP*

State governments have CDP milestones under the current NPRH. These require projects to be developed that could be implemented by CDP providers. The milestones aim to identify housing related opportunities arising from the delivery of the capital works programme.

CDP Providers are made aware of upcoming housing related opportunities and work with lead contractors, the community and jobseekers to design and implement activities that prepare job seekers to take on the opportunities when they arise. This may include negotiating hosted placements with lead contractors to support job seekers to gain the skills and experience to secure ongoing employment.

*Kurrawang*

Housing in Kurrawang is owned by the Kurrawang Aboriginal Christian Community Inc. (KACC) as freehold. It is not public housing. KACC is responsible for its own housing repairs and maintenance.

In 2009/10 the Western Australian Government approached Kurrawang Community to secure tenure over the housing so it could manage the houses and undertake works on the properties. Kurrawang Community did not agree to the relevant tenure arrangements. As a result, the then Commonwealth and Western Australian Government made a decision to not invest in housing in the community under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH).

Although the maintenance of housing in Kurrawang has been identified as a priority by the community under CDP, the presence of asbestos has prevented the CDP Provider from developing and implementing a housing maintenance activity. A qualified specialist with the appropriate skills, tools and equipment is required to remove and dispose of the contaminated materials. The CDP Provider has engaged with the community to design and implement other activities valued by the community. In Kurrawang, CDP has worked with the community on broader community initiatives, including gardening, beautification and heritage projects

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**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 16

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** Perhaps I can give you some further information, Mr Tongue. I appreciate you taking a particular interest in Kurrawang. When one of the women on the board of governance asked GETS why they couldn't do the housing maintenance she was told, 'We need participants to turn up, we need them to be doing the activities, we need them coming every day, and they won't necessarily come.' So GETS made the assessment, and maybe it was just easier for them to get people picking up rubbish. They weren't given any further information than that. There's a range of programs that could be done there. They also have lighting which is broken, so at night people are getting around with torches. A \$40,000 investment.

It didn't stop there. This was like something out of *Yes, Minister*: at Mulga Queen we were told that they had been given play equipment for children that has been sitting in a shed for three years because the community couldn't get a heavy vehicle—they needed a back hoe to dig rocks—to enable that equipment to be set up as part of the CDP program. So it has been sitting there three years and they said to us, 'We hope this year we will be able to get that equipment put in.' Unfortunately, in that whole Goldfields region, they weren't isolated examples. We heard really poor program outcomes. Senator Siewert has already made reference to the traditional lawman picking up rubbish on the NG lands. That evidence came from the Western Australia Police, who also gave us evidence. So there are very poor outcomes. There are a lot of penalties being applied across that region. Anecdotally, that's what they're telling us.

....

(at page 63 of Transcript)

**Mr Tongue:** Chair, I'm reminded, members have raised a number of individual circumstances with us. I don't know Senate practice well enough to know if the secretariat could in some way give us those examples, so we can go away and if we can make change happen we will undertake to do that, rather than, say, wait for the committee's report. If you've got things that you've heard that you think we can address, I'd really like the to-do list, please.

**Senator LINES:** Excellent.

**CHAIR:** I think we can assemble the things that have been raised today and forward the relevant evidence to you.

**Mr Tongue:** Okay, and then I'm happy to take on notice what we've done in response to each of those queries.

**Answer:**

*Mulga Queen*

The local CDP service provider has acknowledged the delay in installing the playground equipment and agreed to address the issue. The Department will monitor progress to ensure the issue is resolved as a matter of urgency.

*Kurrawang Community*

Public housing stock is generally the responsibility of the respective state and local government. However, housing in Kurrawang is owned by the Kurrawang Aboriginal Christian Community Inc. (KACC) as freehold. It is not public housing. KACC is responsible for its own housing repairs and maintenance.

Although the maintenance of housing in Kurrawang has been identified as a priority by the community under CDP, the presence of asbestos has prohibited the local CDP service provider from developing and implementing a housing maintenance activity. Asbestos removal comes under the WA Government Department of Environment Regulation and a qualified specialist with the appropriate skills, tools and equipment is required to remove and dispose of the contaminated materials. The CDP service provider has engaged with the community to design and implement other activities valued by the community, including gardening, beautification and heritage projects.

*Ngaanyatjarra Council Aboriginal Corporation (NCAC)*

The Department has contacted NCAC in relation to the statement of a “*traditional lawman picking up rubbish on the NG lands*”. NCAC advised that lawmen, and any other job seeker may undertake cleaning or clearing type actions in their community if they choose to do so, but picking up rubbish is not a CDP activity. NCAC confirmed that Community Maintenance activities are run in most communities, and may require some clearing as part of the activity but job seekers are not forced participate in the clearing and may participate in alternative activities.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines, Sue

**Question reference number:** 17

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** When you chose those eight communities for your evaluation, I know you said you tried to pick communities that represented the best, the middle and those not doing so well. Did you also look at the range of providers?

**Mr Denny:** That was Mr Johnson answering those questions.

**Senator LINES:** I beg your pardon.

**Mr Johnson:** My understanding is that that is the case, and it was different providers as well.

**Senator LINES:** So when you say there was a mix, what was your definition for a mix of providers?

**Mr Johnson:** Different sizes of providers. Like I said, I'll take on notice how we actually came up with those and we'll provide the actual context and the matrix that we pulled together to determine those.

**Answer:** Refer to response to Question 10.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question reference number:** 18

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator SIEWERT:** While you are on that, the Nirrumbuk mob were also saying that they had a road contract coming up—I think it was the road into One Arm, or around there, anyway—and they were saying that they had specifically trained up some people so that they could have the skills to go on a crew. They came in to do the road and they refused to take them on; they weren't given any employment.

**Mr Tongue:** Senator, I'd have to take that one away. We're doing a lot of work with the Western Australia government on that Dampier Peninsula road, all the way up to Ardyaloon.

**Senator SIEWERT:** I'll check which road it was. I was specifically talking to Mr Sibosado about this and he was extremely concerned that, after all the training, they didn't get the work.

**Mr Tongue:** We know Mr Sibosado very well—we engage with him a lot—and we have a good relationship with the Western Australian government around those roads. We think we're on the cusp of finding a way to use CDP to link with the roads. So I'm happy to take that example away and see if we can't backtrack a bit.

**Senator SIEWERT:** If you could have a chat to him that would be good, because he specifically raised it with me.

**Answer:**

The road in question is the Broome-Cape Leveque Road project, which was committed to by the Australian Government under the Northern Australia Roads Program (NARP).

Even though this project was a commitment made by the Australian Government, as the asset owner, the Department of Main Roads Western Australia (Main Roads) is responsible for all aspects of project delivery including contracting. The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (DIRD), as the relevant Commonwealth agency, will work with Main Roads to ensure its approach meets the requirements of the legislative and policy framework that guides the delivery of Commonwealth-funded infrastructure projects.

Recognising the significant Indigenous populations in northern Australia, through the NARP and the Northern Australia Beef Roads Program the Australian Government has included Indigenous employment and procurement targets that reflect the local Indigenous working age population, for all projects committed to under both programs.

The Department understands that Main Roads has decided to delay any further work on the Broome-Cape Leveque Road until April 2018. This will allow for further engagement with local Indigenous stakeholders.

Main Roads has also advised that:

- Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation has already won some initial dam preparation work for the road; and
- a Community and Stakeholder Engagement Consultant based in Broome had been appointed to improve communications with the communities and advise them in developing proposals for engagement on the project.

The Department will work with all stakeholders to help maximise opportunities on the road for local Indigenous people.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 19

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** We heard a little earlier today about an incident that took place where a participant had three fingers cut off during the course of a CDP activity. Was the department notified about that particular incident?

**Mr Denny:** I'm not sure if it's the same incident, but I can tell you that we've had three claims under our insurance policy, and, with anything like that, a provider is required to notify us of any incident.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** Is there an explicit requirement for any injury that has occurred to a CDP recipient in the course of carrying out an activity to be communicated back to you? Is that a specific requirement or just an expectation?

**Mr Denny:** Yes, I think it is. I'll just have to clarify what the specific requirements—

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** If you could, because there's quite a difference between an expectation and a requirement. Of the three incidents that have been reported to you, can you give us an idea about the severity of the injury?

**Mr Denny:** Yes, and just clarifying, it is a specific requirement. The three claims under our insurance policy so far have been for relatively minor injuries.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** I hope you're not talking about the fingers being chopped off?

**Mr Denny:** No. I don't have the specific detail of what happened, except that one was using a hedge trimmer and doing woodworking activity, but I don't have the specific details of the actual injury that occurred.

**Answer:**

The Department takes the safety of CDP Provider employees and job seekers seriously. It is a requirement under the Funding Agreement that providers notify the department within 24 hours of a serious incident. A serious incident is defined in the Funding Agreement as:

- death;
- injury for which medical attention was sought or should reasonably have been sought;  
or
- any incident that draws the attention of the police.

The details of three claims paid and one active incident with the insurer are outlined in the table below. This includes one additional claim reported to the insurer after the Inquiry Hearing on 11 September 2017:

<b>Date Reported</b>	<b>Injury incurred</b>	<b>Status</b>
29.08.16	Cut to Left Middle Finger	CLOSED
03.05.17	Cut End of Left Index Finger	CLOSED
11.09.17	Laceration of Finger	CLOSED
22.12.16	Split Tip of Finger Through Nail Bed and Bone ( <i>claim re-opened by the insurer</i> )	ACTIVE

There has been no claim regarding an incident where three fingers were cut off during the course of a CDP activity.

Ms Lara Watson, Indigenous Officer of the Australian Council of Trade Unions referred to a job seeker who had three fingers sliced in the course of an activity, not a loss of fingers. The Department is following up with Ms Watson to clarify the details of this incident.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 20

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** Okay, but there were three. When you say that the claims were made under your insurance policy, who gets the payment for that? Is it the injured person or the organisation that's had them conducting the activity at the time?

**Mr Denny:** Essentially the jobseeker's medical costs are reimbursed.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** But they would need to pay for them up-front first?

**Mr Denny:** I'd have to check how the payment works, but I don't think so. If they went to a hospital, Medicare would cover the basic services. Our insurance policy covers anything beyond that, and our insurance policy also provides out-of-pocket expenses as well. There are non-medical expenses, which might be physiotherapy, osteopathy, chiropractor—so those non-medical things that aren't covered by Medicare—but, in addition to that, if there are other out-of-pocket expenses, a jobseeker or a participant who's injured while undertaking CDP can be paid I think \$200 a week for 12 months of the year for those other out-of-pocket expenses.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** So up to \$200 a week for 12 months?

**Mr Denny:** It would obviously depend on the specific claim and the nature of the claim, and the insurance company would assess that.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** If you don't have it now, could you provide us on notice with how many times somebody has made a claim under that provision, the \$200 per week for 12 months?

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Answer:**

The Department's insurance covers job seekers for accidents incurred while participating in CDP. The insurance includes compensation for injuries and reimbursement for expenses, including medical expenses not covered by Medicare and out of pocket expenses, such as travel and domestic help requirements. The compensation available to job seekers is in addition to medical and other expenses incurred. The amount of compensation depends on the severity of the injury, and is up to a maximum of \$250,000.

There has been no claims for out of pocket expenses and domestic home help allowance since the commencement of the CDP.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 21

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** So is that \$200 a week intended to cover future impairments or just the treatment of the actual injury that happened?

**Mr Denny:** It's for unforeseen expenses such as for clothing, medical aids and local transportation for the purposes of seeking medical treatment. It might be for domestic home help during the rehabilitation period. I can provide you with more detail on notice.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** If you could; thank you...

**Answer:**

The Department's insurance for CDP job seekers includes allowances such as a maximum of \$200 per week out of pocket expenses and \$200 per week for domestic home help. The maximum time period for this allowance is 12 months. These allowances are considered on a case by case basis, and cover non-medical expenses incurred over the 12 month period following the injury.

Out of pocket expenses cover unforeseeable expenses as a result of an injury such as clothing, medical aids (not including electronic devices) and local transportation for the purpose of seeking medical treatment.

Domestic home help covers job seekers expenses incurred as a result of not being able to carry out domestic duties. A doctor is required to certify that the job seeker is unable to carry out domestic duties. The insurer will pay the actual and reasonable costs of hiring domestic help, provided that the domestic help is not carried out by the job seeker's own family, friends or other close relatives nor by a person permanently residing with the job seeker.

In addition to the above allowances, the Department's insurance policy also covers non Medicare medical expenses (such as physiotherapy), paid as a reimbursement up to a maximum of \$20,000. The insurance policy also includes a compensation payment for injury – the amount will depend on the severity of the injury to a maximum of \$250,000. This payment is in addition to expenses reimbursed.

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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 22

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** On notice, could you tell us whether any CDP providers have been prosecuted under work health and safety laws for failing to adhere to them?

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Answer:**

The Department is not aware of any providers that have been prosecuted under work health and safety laws relating to the provision of CDP services since the commencement of the CDP.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Senator Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 23

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** You mentioned that undertaking a course at TAFE would satisfy some of the activity requirements under the CDP. I think—correct me if I'm wrong—that there were 40 TAFEs? Or maybe you didn't say it. How many TAFEs are in CDP regions?

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** Of the TAFEs that are in CDP regions, how many offer bridging courses? We've heard that basic literacy and numeracy skills require attention, so I'd like to know how many of those TAFEs offer literacy courses.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet does not hold this information, however CDP Providers can refer job seekers to basic literacy and numeracy courses delivered by a range of organisations, including TAFE and through the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) programme.

The following website provides a facility to search for TAFE providers and courses, including basic literacy and numeracy courses (Certificate I and II courses), via TAFE region. Many TAFEs also offer outreach services, such as the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education that covers the whole of Central Australia.

<https://www.training.com.au/tafe-courses/>

The Commonwealth-funded SEE programme provides up to 800 hours of accredited language, literacy and numeracy training to eligible job seekers, to help them to participate more effectively in training or in the labour force. The program is delivered across Australia including in remote areas, and with many flexible delivery options (such as full or part-time hours, face-to-face or in a vocational context). A list of all SEE program providers is available at <https://www.education.gov.au/see-providers>.

Further questions should be directed to the Department of Education and Training (DET), that has national policy responsibility for the vocational education and training system including TAFE and the SEE programme.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 24

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** Okay. How often are you advised of limitations experienced by CDP providers to deliver courses or activities that would actually have a meaningful outcome? I'm just thinking of an example we heard during the inquiry about Burringurrah, where there was no electricity to power a site to run trade classes to teach people, which would have had a benefit for the participants there. Are you advised of limitations by CDP providers around their ability to provide meaningful work-like activities?

(at page 63 of Hansard)

**Mr Tongue:** Chair, I'm reminded, members have raised a number of individual circumstances with us. I don't know Senate practice well enough to know if the secretariat could in some way give us those examples, so we can go away and if we can make change happen we will undertake to do that, rather than, say, wait for the committee's report. If you've got things that you've heard that you think we can address, I'd really like the to-do list, please.

**Senator LINES:** Excellent.

**CHAIR:** I think we can assemble the things that have been raised today and forward the relevant evidence to you.

**Mr Tongue:** Okay, and then I'm happy to take on notice what we've done in response to each of those queries.

**Answer:**

*Burringurrah Community*

Burringurrah is a small isolated community situated on Aboriginal Land Trust (ALT) land which is leased to Burringurrah Community Aboriginal Corporation (BCAC).

BCAC exists in name only and is not a service provider. BCAC does not receive any direct funding and all essential services are provided to the community by third party providers.

All non-residential assets remain the responsibility of BCAC under the ALT lease arrangement which remains in force regardless of the status of the organisation.

The local CDP service provider, MAX Employment, has sought to engage with the Burringurrah community and develop suitable activities for CDP participants.

In November 2016 MAX held a community meeting to gather ideas for activities and the community suggested a mechanical workshop type activity. The community suggested MAX deliver activities in a workshop which is held (under lease) by BCAC.

There is no power to the workshop however MAX Employment has engaged an electrical contractor to certify its safety. In lieu of the power being connected, the activity uses manual tools and equipment and has been running in the workshop since 6 March 2017.

MAX Employment is prepared to connect power and pay rent for the facility but there is currently no legal entity with whom MAX can enter into an agreement. While these issues are resolved, MAX has progressed the activity without power to ensure participants have access to the types of activities the community has identified.

The Department will continue to work with MAX Employment and the community to support the development of CDP activities.

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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Kakoschke-Moore

**Question reference number:** 25

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** One final question, which may need to be taken on notice. Going back to where a CDP participant is injured and they may be entitled to up to \$200 a week for ongoing treatment costs, I'd like to know how much has actually been paid out in those types of payments since the CDP started.

**Mr Denny:** It won't be a lot because there have only been three claims.

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** You're sure about that, that there has only been three claims?

**Mr Denny:** Yes

**Answer:**

No payments have been made to CDP job seekers under the Domestic Home Help and Out of Pocket Expenses allowances provision.

In total \$13,934 has been paid under the Department's insurance policy since the commencement of CDP.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question reference number:** 26

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator SIEWERT:** I want to go to Senator Kakoschke-Moore's line of questioning, and also the point that was being made about the particular case where the person got their fingers cut. It sounded like there's permanent incapacity, not total incapacity but their capacity was very much affected. In those circumstances, what happens where there's a permanent ongoing injury? I understand we've just had a discussion about the provision of funding for the 12 months. What happens beyond that, where somebody's work capacity is actually permanently affected?

**Mr Denny:** I'd have to take that on notice. I guess we haven't been confronted with that issue in the past. I can certainly take that on notice in terms of what our insurance coverage provides in the longer term.

**Mrs Field:** There's that part of it and then there's how we deal with them around their activity requirements under income support. We would have an expectation that they got reassessed to see what their circumstances are and what their capacity is under income support.

**Senator SIEWERT:** I want to come back to DSP and capacity, but I'm more interested in the fact that their life has been permanently affected. What's the process? I understood from the evidence we received this morning that there was an understanding that there was not compensation for somebody who is injured while working in this program.

**Mr Denny:** Certainly our insurance will cover the medical expenses—

**Senator SIEWERT:** Yes, I understand that.

**Mr Denny:** and the out-of-pocket expenses that are a result of that injury over that 12-month period. But beyond that, I would need to take it on notice for you.

**Senator SIEWERT:** You're basically talking about workers compensation here. If you could take that on notice.

To be honest, I'm quite surprised that the department doesn't have an understanding of what happens if someone's permanently incapacitated and where it's effectively workers compensation. There's been no consideration? Mr Tongue, it's probably you I should be talking to.

**Mr Tongue:** In terms of our administration of the program to date, we have all the things we are statutorily required to have in place to manage the program. We comply with all of the relevant legislation with regard to workers compensation in order to run the program. In terms of what that means for an individual worker in a particular jurisdiction, I think that's the bit we would have to take on notice.

**Senator SIEWERT:** There are two things: somebody has been placed with another employer and the other is where they're undertaking a work-like activity—if you could take both scenarios on notice.

**Mrs Field:** Yes.

**Mr Denny:** If they've been placed into a job then all the normal provisions apply that would apply to any other jobseeker.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Sorry, that's why I corrected myself to say they're undertaking a work-like activity with an employer rather than actually having a job with an employer.

**Ms Field:** Are you talking about a hosted placement?

**Senator SIEWERT:** Yes, a hosted placement.

**Ms Field:** A work experience type arrangement?

**Senator SIEWERT:** Yes.

**Ms Field:** We can take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Job seekers participating in CDP are covered by the Department's insurance. This includes job seekers participating in work experience (hosted placement) as well as other CDP activities, and extends to CDP volunteers. A job seeker or volunteer has the same entitlements under the Department's insurance regardless of whether they are participating in CDP activities run by the CDP Provider, a hosted placement or other CDP activities.

If an individual is permanently injured, there is both compensation and reimbursement for expenses available under the insurance policy. This could include:

1. Compensation payment - the amount will depend on the severity of the injury up to a maximum of \$250,000. This payment is in addition to expenses reimbursed.
2. Non-Medicare medical expenses (such as physiotherapy), paid as a reimbursement up to a maximum of \$20,000.
3. Reimbursement of costs through allowances of:
  - a) \$200 per week for 12 months for out of pocket expenses incurred by the job seeker.
  - b) \$200 per week for 12 months for Domestic Help requirements, such as transport to and from medical appointments, home help such as cleaning, lawn mowing etc.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
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**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question reference number:** 27

**Type of question:** Hansard

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 3 (*plus attachment*)

**Question:**

**Senator SIEWERT:** Thank you. Has there been any progress with the youth engagement strategy, the program that was announced as part of the budget process?

**Ms Field:** Yes, absolutely. Mr Denny can go through where we're up to with those youth strategies.

**Mr Denny:** Most of those strategies have commenced. The funding was being offered to all the regions. I think there are only five CDP regions where the funding hasn't been released yet. So the bulk of that funding has been released. And we've entered into funding arrangements with each of those providers, and they're commencing delivering those activities.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Could you take on notice to list what the programs have been funded?

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Mr Denny:** Yes.

**Senator SIEWERT:** And if there has been any progress from there such as how many young people have been engaged and how many have had some job outcomes or some skill development outcomes?

**Ms Field:** We'll definitely take that on notice but it has been a very short amount of time.

**Senator SIEWERT:** I understand that.

**Mr Denny:** I just want to clarify, we're not even 12 months into that funding and the strategies being on the ground so it is something we are monitoring. But we would expect to kind of see it over a longer period.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Okay. I understand that. Do you have detail on the mental health programs that were also announced for small communities? Maybe take it on notice.

**Mr Denny:** We can take it on notice but we do have good data on the mental health stuff.

**Senator SIEWERT:** If you could take that on notice, that would be great. I asked a series of questions about stats. Are you able to break that down by gender? I'm very interested in the breakdown of the number of job placements against gender, please.

**Ms Field:** Of course, we'll do that for you.

**Senator SIEWERT:** And if possible in age cohorts as well.

**Ms Field:** We'll see what we can do for you.

**Answer:**

**CDP Youth Engagement Strategies**

A summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategies where seed funding has been released to the CDP Provider is at Attachment A. Over \$8 million has been released to CDP Providers as at 26 September 2017. Providers in five CDP Regions have not yet received funding as the funding offer has not been finalised.

Given the strategies have only recently commenced, the Department is not able to report on outcomes achieved at this stage. CDP Providers are required to submit progress reports to the Department on 31 January 2018.

**Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training**

MHFA training provides frontline workers with mental first aid skills to help identify the early warning signs of mental health issues and equip people with knowledge and skills to help.

In 2017, the government announced an additional \$9.5 million to expand the rollout of MHFA to all CDP staff and to 14 high-risk communities. This followed \$2.1 million for the delivery of MHFA in CDP and RSAS sites and to the community of Groote Eylandt.

The additional funding will enable the training to be provided to an additional 585 CDP staff and 156 Community Night Patrol staff. The training will be delivered in clustered locations across two financial years 2017-18 and 2018-19.

**Age and gender breakdown of job placements**

The placement data below is additional to the response provided for Question on Notice #9 regarding the breakdown of job seeker placements.

**By Gender**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Placements</b>	<b>13 Week</b>	<b>26 Week</b>
Female	6,914	3,111	2,237
Male	11,143	5,040	3,492
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,057</b>	<b>8,151</b>	<b>5,729</b>

**By Age**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Placements</b>	<b>13 Week</b>	<b>26 Week</b>
15-19	1,534	595	337
20-24	2,727	1,205	854
25-29	2,614	1,118	793
30-34	2,545	1,060	746
35-39	2,270	988	675
40-44	2,056	991	711
45-49	1,886	917	651
50-54	1,196	590	434
55-59	817	446	339
60+	412	241	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,057</b>	<b>8,151</b>	<b>5,729</b>

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
Kimberley	Christmas-Cocos Islands	Indian Ocean Group Training Association	The Provider will deliver mentoring and support to highly disengaged youth and lead inclusive community-based youth projects on both Christmas and Cocos Islands. This will include engagement of Youth Coordinators, training and support to develop young leaders in the community and youth activities.
Greater WA	Kambalda/Norseman Region and Yaaliku Region WA	Goldfields Employment and Training Services Pty Ltd	The strategy includes the employment of youth workers in Kambalda and Yaaliku to facilitate the regular delivery of activities outside school hours, including music, mentoring and sport. It will also include cultural camps aimed at reconnecting young people with culture and building resilience. The youth worker will also continue to work with key stakeholders, including local schools and youth centres, throughout the duration of the project to ensure it best meets the needs of the youth in the area.
Greater WA	Mid West - West Region WA	MEEDAC Incorporated	The strategy targets job seekers aged 15-22 who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging from education or their DHS mutual obligations. A pilot project has been developed which aims to address barriers over a 12 to 14 weeks period through participation, encouragement, education and support and involves support from a number of key stakeholders. The project is flexible and open to changes to meet the needs of the participants, and includes job readiness training, physical and mental wellbeing and life skills training. As part of the strategy, a Youth space will also be developed which will also be used by the Community during holidays or special events.
Greater WA	Gascoyne Region WA	MAX Solutions Pty Ltd	The strategy in this region leverages existing stakeholders and not for profit organisations to develop a comprehensive program to engage young people. The program focusses on providing positive social engagement for youth, linking them with community and building resilience. It provides support services to reduce self harm, drug usage and suicide and includes an after-school program. The program includes activities focussing on mentoring, personal development, sports, leadership and capacity building, environment and cultural awareness and arts.
Greater WA	Mid West - East Region WA	Yulella Incorporated	The strategy in this region has been developed with a strong training and employment focus, with supporting activities to address social issues. The strategy includes creation of a youth space within the Yulella complex with after school activities, support to identify training and employment options across a range of industries including media, mechanics, music and woodwork utilising local resources such as radio and TAFE.
Greater WA	Karratha Region WA	REFAP Pty Ltd	This program will run for 15 weeks and be delivered by REFAP with the support of North Regional TAFE and the WA Department of Education. It is specifically designed to reconnect young people of Year 11 and 12 compulsory school age to education and training and prepare them for work. Over the 15 weeks, participants will complete a Certificate I in Leadership, Literacy and Numeracy Support Courses; First Aid Course (St Johns), and Keys for Life and Learners Permit Preparation. The Program will run three times over the 12 month period, accommodating 15 participants per course.
Kimberley	Kullarri Region WA	Kullarri Regional CDEP Inc	The project focusses on employment of a youth, family and engagement coordinator to deliver tailored responses for youth in each community. The Provider continues to work with key stakeholders across the regions to ensure the project complements current services.
Kimberley	Fitzroy Valley Region WA	Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation	The strategy aims to create strong culture and positive outcomes for local youth. It has three focuses to respond to the range of youth needs and issues within the Fitzroy Valley: Strong Leadership; Cultural Strengthening; Re-engagement (to school, self-development, education, training and employment).
Kimberley	Halls Creek/Tjurabalan Region WA	East Kimberley Job Pathways Pty Ltd	The Provider intends to open a youth 'drop in' centre in Halls Creek which will focus strongly on education and training complemented by health and wellbeing initiatives. It is envisaged that the centre will open Friday/Saturday nights and during school holidays.
Kimberley	Derby/Gibb River Region WA	Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation	The Provider will focus on the transition from school to work to promote and support educational and career pathways for ceasing Year 12 students attending Derby Senior High School. Projects to underpin this plan are currently being finalised in consultation with key stakeholders.
Kimberley	East Kimberley Region WA	East Kimberley Job Pathways Pty Ltd	The strategy in this region will focus on contributing to the proposed Wyndham Youth Aboriginal Corporation, with a specific focus on delivery of structured youth activities. Youth will be engaged through organised sporting, cultural learning, connection to country and personal development activities that will explore and develop ideas of self-esteem, resilience, conflict resolution and leadership skills. These activities will re-integrate youth at high risk into the wider youth cohort by providing alternate social interactions.

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
South Australia	Eyre Region, Far West Region and Flinders and Far North Region SA	Complete Personnel S.A. Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in these regions has a strong careers focus. A youth focussed career service does not currently exist in the communities. A Project Manager and Career Development Practitioner will be employed in each region to co-ordinate and assist a local staff member to deliver the project and achieve the project deliverables, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* the upskilling of a local person in Cert IV Career Development;</li> <li>* delivery of a professional youth focussed Career Development service in communities;</li> <li>* engaging with all schools and relevant service providers in the region;</li> <li>* delivery of 160 Career Development sessions to young people across the CDP regions; and</li> <li>* assisting young people to plan training and employment pathways.</li> </ul>
South Australia	Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands SA	Skill Hire WA Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region focuses on work experience and training and will be delivered through a partnership between Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee (PYEC), Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) and Voyagers. Voyagers manage tourism properties including Ayers Rock Resort. Activities offered will include mentoring, physical and mental wellbeing, leadership and cultural connection and identifying employment and educational pathways. A full time worker will be employed to deliver a project that will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* engagement of up to 40 Anangu youth from the APY Lands to participate in work experience at Ayers Rock Resort with a focus on early school leavers aged from 14 to 16 years, and young people aged over 17 years.</li> <li>* participants will move through three stages within approximately one school year and will work towards a Certificate I in Tourism, receive accreditation towards their South Australian Certificate of Education and may be offered employment at the Ayers Rock Resort or into other industry pathways.</li> </ul>
Central Australia	South East Alice Region NT	CatholicCare NT	<p>The strategy in this region supports employment of a Youth Engagement Officer. This Officer will be responsible for working with the youth in the region to increase their interactions with local services. The Youth Engagement Officer will also be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* ensuring that job seekers aged 16-21 are attending their WFD activity on a regular basis – including job seekers aged 16-17 who are voluntary.</li> <li>* proactively working with employment consultants and DHS to identify 'NIL Rate' 16-21 year old job seekers and working to return their status to Full Rate.</li> <li>* engaging any 14-29 year old people on community that are not on income support and not currently engaged (e.g. not working) and proactively work to get these people on to income support through liaison with DHS.</li> <li>* coordinating regular meetings with Youth Designated Activity Mentors, School Attendance Coordinator, School Attendance Supervisors and Job Coach to discuss strategies relating to Youth Engagement.</li> <li>* developing regular (one per month) short term activities outside of school hours to further engage the 14-29 cohort – this could include activities such as football clinics, boxing classes, music classes, workshops around suicide prevention and drug use.</li> </ul>
Central Australia	South West Alice Region NT	Wana Ungkuntja Pty Ltd	The strategy in this region centres on the engagement of Grow The Music - an organisation specialising in using music and media as a vehicle to teach resilience, empathy, self awareness, improved health and wellbeing and community development to youth in the region.
Central Australia	West Alice Region NT	Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation	The strategy in this region focusses on employment of 2 youth engagement workers to coordinate activities of interest to the target cohort. Specific projects are yet to be developed but will be designed in consultation with the local community.
Central Australia	Alice Springs District NT	Tangentyere Council Incorporated	The strategy in this region will see the employment of a Youth Mentor to develop and implement projects to engage young people who are either disengaged or at significant risk of disengaging from school or work. The strategy aims to create more opportunities for positive engagement. Activities such as multimedia, sport, music, will be used as scaffolding supports which focus on increasing confidence and self-esteem and promote pathways into training, employment and education.
Central Australia	North West Alice Region NT	Central Desert Regional Council	The strategy in this region involves the recruitment of a Youth Engagement Officer to consult with young people to identify and deliver activities that are meaningful to them and increase their interaction with local service providers. Activities will be based on the consultation, and could include focussing on cooking; health and nutrition; obtaining a drivers license; motor mechanics; music production; hairdressing; clothing design and production; video and camera production, adventure activities or Language Literacy and Numeracy.
Central Australia	Far West Alice Region NT	Ngurratjuta-Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation	A key focus of this providers strategy will be on training and employment, and the provider intends to include a project with linkages with Voyages Indigenous Tourism training at Yulara as part of the strategy.
Top End and Tiwi Islands and Central Australia	North Barkly Region and South East Barkly Region NT	Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation	The strategy in this region aims to address issues identified by key stakeholders in these regions. It will include assistance with accommodation for disengaged youth which will assist them to successfully re-engage with their communities.
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Ngukurr/Numbulwar Region NT	Roper Gulf Regional Council	The strategy in this region will include employment of a Youth Worker who will provide individualised case management of up to 30 disengaged youth in the community of Binjari.

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Katherine Region NT	Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region will see Youth Mentors engaged in collaboration with traditional owners, and health, education and policing resources. These Youth Mentors will then deliver services to local youth, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Development of individual action plans;</li> <li>* Development of a referral to complimentary services and facilitation of these referrals.</li> </ul> <p>Other activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Engaging guest speakers to run workshops on issues identified by community and young women;</li> <li>* Building on the existing work with the Stars Foundation at Katherine High School and the YMCA;</li> <li>* Local youth working with Traditional Owners to record and understand the Indigenous history of Katherine to explain the facts as conceived by a group of young Indigenous participants;</li> <li>* Establishment of an Impact Hub for the Katherine Office where workshops can be undertaken;</li> <li>* Assisting Youth to obtain licences, Tax File Numbers, resume writing and interview skills and techniques.</li> </ul>
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Victoria River Region NT	Victoria Daly Regional Council	<p>The strategy in this region is being created through consultation with key stakeholders. It aims to address identified issues in the region, including disengagement from education, drug and alcohol misuse, significant health &amp; wellbeing issues, growing concerns for mental health, self-harming, criminality and violence.</p> <p>A key part of the strategy will also be to launch the Provider's "One Thousand Stars Project" to engage all communities in the Youth conversation. The strategy aims to identify twenty (20) 'Stars', around whom whole of community support can be directed to ensure they achieve their goals: to stay in school, re-engage in school, seek employment, achieve year 12 equivalent and obtain a license.</p>
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Central Arnhem Region NT	Roper Gulf Regional Council	<p>The strategy in this region will be the employment of a Youth Worker who will provide individualised case management of up to 30 disengaged youth in the community of Jilkminggan.</p>
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Wadeye Region NT	Thamarrurr Development Corporation Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region will see Thamarrurr Development Corporation purchase a container fully equipped with tools to enable a space for youth to fix cars, motor bikes, bicycles and lawn mowers. The existing youth provider in Wadeye (Thathangathay Foundation) will also be engaged to explore opportunities for and support young people establish an enterprise fixing small machines, as this has been identified as a demand in the community. An RTO will be engaged to write a traineeship package which will engage 4-5 trainees who have demonstrated strong attendance and motivation. As the initial 4-5 trainees successfully progress through training, more youth will be engaged.</p>
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Darwin Daly Region NT	Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation	<p>The strategy for a Youth Engagement Program in this region will include projects designed to engage and attract youth in the region. Opportunities include engaging a mechanic/trainer to teach youth motor skills as a method of engagement.</p>
Top End and Tiwi Islands	Tiwi Region NT	Tiwi Islands Training & Employment Board	<p>The strategy for this region includes the roll out of the Very Important People - Tiwi Youth Think Tanks which will consult with local youth to identify what they would like to see and receive. Tiwi Islands leaders and other guest speakers will participate in the Forums with youth. This will provide strengths-based messaging to young people about their role as keepers of Tiwi Culture, leaders in culture and business, motivate and encourage youth to engage in their community, education and employment.</p>
Arnhem Land & Groote Eylandt	West Arnhem Region NT	Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes two key projects to engage with youth in the West Arnhem Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* the establishment of a new music room at the CDP premises in Minjilang to engage and connect with young people in the community as music is a powerful communication tool in this region. The project will be run by a young man, an acclaimed musician, who completed his education remotely due to school ending in Year 6.</li> <li>* cultural activities at Gunbalanya. This project will use the knowledge and leadership skills of peer support workers to develop safe healthy spaces of engagement through the development of a cultural, art and sport trail. This trail will incorporate the three camps in the design and creation of the art trail. The project will be documented with live footage, photography and recorded youth reviews about their participation; and encapsulating this montage into a movie offers another level of engagement for the youth, their development and pathway to learning and or work experience.</li> </ul>

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
Arnhem Land & Groote Eylandt	West Arnhem Region NT	Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation (in Waruwu community only)	The Provider intends to create a youth 'internet cafe' aimed at teaching new skills and building literacy.
Arnhem Land & Groote Eylandt	Maningrida Region NT	Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	The strategy in this region involves the creation of a Youth Hub providing computer and training access including basic computer literacy classes and multi media activities including music, photography, 3D printing and video post production.
Arnhem Land & Groote Eylandt	Milingimbi/Ramingining Region and Galiwin'ku Region NT	The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation	The strategy in these regions include the exploration of opportunities that would involve the employment of local Yolngu staff to work as career counsellors and work with secondary students to map out their career aspirations. They will work with schools to build direct pathways to employment, ensuring that students do not need Centrelink and CDP to access support.
Arnhem Land & Groote Eylandt	Gapuwiyak-Yirrkala Region NT	Miwatj Employment And Participation Ltd	The strategy in this region will be delivered by 3 separate providers and will see funding support an expansion of existing projects providing services to youth in the region. In the homelands, the CDP Provider is leveraging off an existing program run by Laynhapuy that focuses on wellbeing, self development and life skills. In Gunyangara, funding has been provided for a facilitator who will be working from a new youth centre that has been funded by Gumatj, and in Gapuwuy, funding has been contributed to running women's camps organised by the local health centre.
Western NSW	Far West Region and Upper Darling Region NSW	Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Ltd	<p>The strategy in these regions includes employment of a Full-Time Youth Worker to facilitate the delivery of the "Step Ahead Program".</p> <p>The Youth Worker will provide one on one mentoring sessions through regular contact to develop a mentoring plan with each participant as well as referrals to other services including drug and alcohol, medical, family support, children, housing, legal Aid, and DHS.</p> <p>The "Step Ahead Program" includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops - that deliver life skills</li> <li>• Training – Job Readiness Training Program</li> <li>• Work Experience-with suitable employers across the region</li> <li>• Provide school and holiday space-that will incorporate a range of activities, information and services aimed at 14-17 year olds</li> <li>• Recruitment of a pool of volunteer Youth Support Workers to supervise each youth space</li> </ul> <p>The workshops and training will take place in smaller communities such as Menindee,Ivanhoe,Goodooga, Enngonia and Weilmoringle-that have limited to no services for youth. In the larger communities like Bourke, Brewarrina and Wilcannia the "Step Ahead Program" will leverage off existing services and providers to address 'gap' issues. In Wilcannia the strategy will also link with RSAS to ensure disengaged youth attend school regularly.</p>
South QLD	South West Region QLD	Employment Services Queensland Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes different activities designed to engage and reconnect disengaged youth, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Development of a documentary to include video interviews by youth with elders to build connectivity to heritage and culture;</li> <li>* digital awareness;</li> <li>* Health and well-being and social skills, budgeting, cooking, nutrition, social and emotional well being;</li> <li>* Youth programs for disengaged youth, such as shearing programs;</li> <li>* group discussions facilitated counselling sessions, on a range of topics: e.g.: anger/stress, anxiety, sexual health, self esteem, mindfulness;</li> <li>* creation of an Arts space;</li> <li>* Women only and Men only groups, including preparing for and supporting young mothers.</li> </ul>

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
South QLD	Central West Region QLD	Employment Services Queensland Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes a number of different activities designed to engage and reconnect disengaged youth, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Collaboration with Longreach Regional Council for the re-establishment of a gym and recreational hub;</li> <li>* Delivery of central west music maker's workshop (music, recording, light engineering, audio mixing, video, photography, marketing including social media);</li> <li>* Computer access;</li> <li>* Support for local visiting sporting groups and identities;</li> <li>* Health and well-being and social skills, budgeting, cooking, nutrition, social and emotional well being;</li> <li>* group discussions facilitated counselling sessions, on a range of topics: e.g.: anger/stress, anxiety, sexual health, self esteem, mindfulness;</li> <li>* creation of an Arts space;</li> <li>* Women only and Men only groups, including preparing for and supporting young mothers.</li> </ul>
Gulf & North QLD	Cloncurry Region and West Isa/Alpururulam Region QLD	Rainbow Gateway Limited	<p>The strategy in these regions will be supported through the engagement of a senior officer to deliver the programme. Following consultation with the target cohort and local stakeholders, activities will link with current youth activities in each site within the region and may include Hospitality, Sport and recreation, SEE, Mining induction, Agriculture, Electro technology (cabling small voltage maintenance for solar), Driver Licencing, Construction, Tenancy management and IT and supported study.</p>
Gulf & North QLD	Palm Island QLD	Campbell Page Limited	<p>The strategy in this region will include a focus on activities after school hours and in the night time as this has been identified as a key service delivery gap on Palm Island, following discussions with key stakeholders and the local community.</p>
Gulf & North QLD	Wellesley Islands QLD	Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes engagement of youth mentors in each location in collaboration with traditional owners, and health, education and policing resources. Mentors will develop individual action plans with youth; refer youth to complementary services; and run workshops on issues identified by community and young women. On Mornington Island, following extensive community consultation, a hair and beauty program has been developed as a positive way to engage with youth. The project is designed to engage, build confidence and self-esteem, to learn and to provide business and / or employment opportunities. It is envisaged that the improved engagement and self-esteem will see participants reengage in education and learning as well as learning valuable skills and providing for the community as a whole.</p>
Far North QLD	Western Tablelands Region QLD	Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes engagement of youth mentors in each location in collaboration with traditional owners, and health, education and policing resources. Mentors will develop individual action plans with youth; refer youth to complementary services; and run workshops on issues identified by community and young women. In Kuranda the CDP provider will establish a new technology hub specifically for young women to undertake a variety of interactive learning activities, including a new program called "Makey Makey." This is an interactive software program which will allow participants to develop their technology skills by utilising computer programming skills. This facility will be located development in a location designed to provide a safe and relaxed environment. Workshops will also be delivered by other youth and educational providers</p>
Gulf & North QLD	Carpentaria Region QLD	Bynoe Community Advancement Co-Op Society Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region is based around the creation of a Media/Computer Hub at the Normanton PCYC. The hub will be available to all youth but will focus on disengaged youth. The hub aims to get those youth who have completed year 10 but are not continuing with school or are not working, engaged through IT. One feature of the hub will be a video conference facility and this aims to allow youth who have parents elsewhere or in prison to be able to speak to them on a regular basis.</p>

PMC Region	CDP Region	CDP Provider	Summary of CDP Youth Engagement Strategy
Far North QLD	Kowanyama/Pormpuraaw Region QLD	Jobfind Centres Australia Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region includes engagement of youth mentors in each location in collaboration with traditional owners, and health, education and policing resources. Mentors will develop individual action plans with youth; refer youth to complementary services; and run workshops on issues identified by community and young women. In Kowanyama, the CDP Provider will work with Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council to bolster their current strategy run by the Multi-Purpose Centre Manager. The funding will support additional youth engagement staff and provide vocational training for young women to assist them enter the workforce if school is not the option for them. In Pormpuraaw, the funding will be used to bolster the existing youth program run by Pormpur Paanthu Aboriginal Corporation. PPAC along with Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council, Rise CDP and the Youth of Pormpuraaw have designed a solution to this issue through joint delivery of an activity for all youth between the ages of 14 – 24 but with a focus on empowering young women in communities. Pormpur Paanthu will host this activity daily and provide a venue for the youth to use due to lack of available space in the community.</p>
Far North QLD, Gulf & North QLD, Central Australia NT	Torres Strait Islands Region, Cook Region, Central Cape Region, Western Cape Region, Northern Peninsula Area Region and Doomadgee Region QLD and North East Alice Region, NT	EMG/ My Pathway	<p>The strategy in these regions is focussed on the recruitment of Youth Engagement Officers responsible for delivering a suite of youth engagement projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* developing youth engagement activities that meet the region's particular requirements.</li> <li>* guiding and mentoring 10 Youth Ambassadors in each region, to develop their leadership skills as an integral element of succession planning that will enhance the basic life skills/social skills of youth in communities.</li> <li>* liaise with schools, network and broker with community services, health networks and cultural diversity programs on opportunities to identify and engage youth in a variety of activities that will compliment personal and community development.</li> <li>* increasing youth reengagement back into schools 14-16 cohort, and increasing the number of youth engaged in VET training activities.</li> <li>* development of personalised pathway plans based around the strengths and aspirations of the individuals, through creating codesigned work readiness programs in conjunction with professional networks and partners (such as PCYC), and workshops focussing on motivation and confidence building.</li> <li>* partnering with existing services (SES, Defence, Rural Fire Brigade) to improve the uptake of youth into voluntary community service programs to build self esteem and pride in community.</li> <li>* Developing intervention plans including a focus on mental health first aid, suicide prevention, anxiety, depression, grief &amp; loss, self harm, sexual health, smoking and resilience. These will be delivered in conjunction with allied health services (with the job seeker's consent and participation) after drug and alcohol rehabilitation or instances of trauma.</li> </ul>
Far North QLD	Aurukun/Coen Region QLD	Cape York Employment Pty Ltd	<p>The strategy in this region focusses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* creation of a safe place for the youth to meet and 'hang out', as well as obtain information to support and engage in programs that will build their confidence, re-engage with their family and culture, educational streams, and engage in fun and empowering activities. Some activities could include; music, dance, social medical, art, craft, LLN training, sport and recreation;</li> <li>* as a reward for engaging continuously for a three month period, the youth will be able to participate in an on country experience where their elders and family members will take them back to country, work on on-country projects and gain skills as well as most importantly reconnect with their culture;</li> <li>* monthly community BBQ's will be conducted to engage the broader community (key community and family members) to develop a strategy to engage youth and to instil a sense of partnership and ownership at the community level.</li> </ul>

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 28

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** Can you give us the locations where you are not getting daily reports or where you have to do paper based reporting?

**Mr Peascod:** We can certainly do our best. It varies on a provider-by-provider basis, and we don't have it at hand.

**Senator LINES:** No. I'm asking you to take it on notice. Presumably you know where those communities are.

**Answer:**

The CDP IT system provides online access that is available wherever an Internet connection is available, and core functions such as recording attendance in activities – even in remote areas of Australia – can be completed using digital, offline capabilities. The CDP IT system does not require providers to use paper-based documents for routine, day-to-day operations.

Providers are encouraged to supply information on a daily basis to inform services provided to job seekers. It is important that providers submit all activity information prior to the end each month as this forms the basis for their monthly remuneration. Within these parameters, providers may make business decisions as to how to structure their reporting arrangements, including how frequently to report during the month, what channels to report through (for example, reporting through the online system or through the mobile app) and where and how to deploy Internet access.

With the correct equipment and installation, broadband internet access can also be accessed across remote Australia since the launch of the Sky Muster satellite in 2016.

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**Question:**

**Mr Tongue:** The other thing I'd note is that, out of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, one of the things that we fund is the gradual expansion of wi-fi in communities. I will take on notice and provide to you the list announced not that many months ago of more communities to come into that net. We're gradually chipping away at the lack-of-access problem.

**Senator LINES:** Perhaps you can also give speeds. I don't want to get into an NBN satellite issue here, but we did hear in evidence—if you were listening this morning or perhaps afterwards, you would have heard from the Tiwi Islands that they have had to base their IT compliance in Darwin because on the islands the internet is too slow. They were saying they had to go through 11 screens and it's just too slow, so they can't manage it from there.

**Mr Tongue:** I'm happy to see what we can find for you on speeds. My understanding is it has been improving, although slowly, but I'll take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Since 2016, the Australian Government has provided community-access internet in Aurukun and Doomadgee in Queensland, Amata in South Australia, and Wilcannia and Murrin Bridge in New South Wales. Community-access means individuals do not have to arrange for their own internet services at a residence and sign-up to a contract, having the option to pay-per-use off their mobile devices. The Department is negotiating with 10 more communities to install community-access hubs by June 2018, and to add NBN Sky Muster WiFi capability to 14 communities which have department-funded payphones.

Across remote Australia (including the Tiwi Islands), access to broadband internet improved in 2016 with the release of the NBN Sky Muster satellite. Providers are now able to access the internet at speeds of up to 25Mbps. Access to broadband internet at this speed supports providers to manage day-to-day CDP operations across Australia, including for data-intensive tasks such as uploading scanned images. It also provides community residents access to government services and online business and social engagement.

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**Senator:** Lines

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**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** Thank you for getting my questions answered. I'm not happy with the answers, but you have come back in a speedy time. We did seek advice, and we were told by the secretariat, who presumably contacted you, that we should ask the Department of Human Services our questions. The Department of Human Services gave them to PM&C. I note in one of your answers that the PM&C has told us that we should ask the Department of Human Services. It feels a bit like *Yes Minister* utopia here, because in your answer from PM&C we asked about the investigations into No Show, No Pay. We also asked that of DHS and DHS gave it to you, PM&C, and you've come back to us and said we should seek that data from the Department of Human Services, which is where we sought it from in the first instance.

**Mrs Field:** Yes. Firstly, apologies about that. It is a matter of where data is held. The penalty data is actually held by the Department of Employment—we work closely with them to get that information—then, though, around the administration of how penalties are applied are actually held by the Department of Human Services.

**Senator LINES:** We just want our question answered.

**Mrs Field:** Yes, and I do apologise.

**Senator LINES:** Will that now be sent back to where we sent it in first place: the Department of Human Services?

**Mrs Field:** We will work with the Department of Human Services to get you that answer to ensure we don't transfer things backwards and forwards between us.

**Senator LINES:** Thank you. There was one question we put to you around the eight-week penalty. You have given us quite a long answer. Almost at the bottom of that answer you have 'data on these instances is unavailable in the time frame'.

**Mrs Field:** Yes.

**Senator LINES:** But you can supply that and you will supply that?

**Mrs Field:** Yes. We are currently working with the Department of Social Services, who hold that data, and working to get that to you as quickly as possible.

**Answer:**

An update to written Question on Notice 3, including the data requested, was provided to the Committee Secretary on 22 September.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 31

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** What statistics are available? If someone just says, 'Gee, look, 80 per cent have attended their activity', you could tick that off. But if we drop it down, we actually find some penalties have been applied. What statistics are you able to give us around those figures?

**Mrs Field:** The data that we provide is actual attendance and valid non-attendance. For any of the hours we do around that percentage, it is my understanding that there would be no compliance in the No Show, No Pay sense.

**Mr Peascod:** When we talk about aggregate 70 per cent engagement, it is attendance, and where providers have worked with the jobseeker to provide a reasonable excuse for non-attendance. On top of that, there is a slight component that relates to compliance. So, when we look at these percentages, it is in aggregate generally for about a month, saying, here is the total required hours of all job seekers on the case load and here is the percentage of actual hours within that that fall into each of those categories.

**Senator LINES:** Can you tell us about PRs on those.

**Mr Peascod:** Yes—

**Senator LINES:** Maybe take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The job seeker engagement rate refers to the proportion of hours that job seekers attend activities, and where providers have worked with the job seeker to determine there is a reasonable excuse for non-attendance. Participation reports do not apply in these situations.

Each month, CDP providers are provided details of their CDP Activity payments that shows the proportion of hours that are payable compared to the total number of hours job seekers are required to attend activities. A reference to, for example, 80 per cent of payable hours will include hours of engagement (as explained above) and potentially hours where the job seeker has not attended and has not provided a valid reason for doing so (invalid non-attendance). For these hours to become payable, the job seeker must re-engage with their CDP activities within fourteen days and, if required to attend activities, the provider submits a participation report to the Department of Human Services.

The job seeker engagement rate in July 2017 was 70 per cent. In addition to this, the proportion of hours that are payable and relate to participation reports was approximately 9 per cent. Note that not all participation reports submitted result in financial penalties.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Senator McAllister

**Question reference number:** 32

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**CHAIR:** Will there be some published account of the nature of the consultation? To date, that has rarely been available. People's conclusions have been published, Mr Forrest's conclusions were published, but the actual evidence that was relied upon in that instance and in subsequent decisions has not been particularly transparent.

**Mrs Field:** I will have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Department documents and keeps records of these consultations to inform policy development. Where appropriate, this can be shared more widely and will be considered as part of future consultations.

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Senate Inquiry 2017**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Community Development Programme - Outcomes

**Senator:** Lines

**Question reference number:** 33

**Type of question:** Verbal

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 October 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LINES:** You said you have had some informal discussions. Outside of the Indigenous advancement committee, can you give us a list of who you have had informal chats with?

**Mrs Field:** Yes.

**Mr Tongue:** We are happy to take that on notice.

**Senator LINES:** The only group who told us they had informal chats with you was NAAJA in the Kimberley.

**Mr Tongue:** It is a bit wider than that but we will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

In addition to the Indigenous Advisory Council, the Department has had informal discussions with CDP providers through forums such as the CDP Provider Business Meeting in early June 2017 and the National Employment Services Association (NESA) Conference in August 2017. Meetings have also been held with the Aboriginal Peak Organisation of the Northern Territory (APO NT) in August and September 2017.

The Minister has also had discussions with a number of organisations and community representatives including with a delegation of Local Government Association of Queensland Mayors from Indigenous councils, the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and the Northern Land Council.