

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 27 FEBRUARY 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: School Enrolment and Attendance Measure – payment cancellations

Question reference number: HS 44

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 April 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How many Centrelink customers' payments have been cancelled in relation to SEAM, by community, for each of the last three financial years?.

- a) What was the duration of the cancellation?
- b) Breakdown by Indigenous status?

Answer:

There were no customers cancelled under SEAM for the 2010-11 financial year. There were less than 20 customers cancelled under SEAM for the 2011-12 financial year (this figure cannot be broken down by community to ensure customer confidentiality). There were no customers cancelled under SEAM for the 2012-13 financial year.

- a) The durations of the less than 20 cancellations ranged from 34 to 42 days. The duration of individual cancellations cannot be provided to ensure customer confidentiality.
- b) The Department of Human Services does not report on the Indigenous status of SEAM customers.

In preparing a response to this question the Department of Human Services found an incorrect response was provided in December 2011 in relation to question (a) of HS 20. The response advised the re-granting of the first customer after eight days; however, the customer was re-granted after 42 days.