

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

#### Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004028

Senator Siewert asked on 29 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 43

#### Question

##### Professional health services for job seekers

Mr Manning: Referring to the guidelines, for services by a qualified psychologist it is \$150 per hour, GST inclusive. That is for individual sessions or group sessions attended by up to five jobseekers. Where they are the larger sessions, which sometimes happens, it is \$25.80 per jobseeker per hour, again GST inclusive, for group sessions of six or more jobseekers. For services provided by other qualified allied health professionals, it is capped at \$125.40 per hour, GST inclusive, for individual sessions or group sessions of up to five.

Senator SIEWERT: The allied health is in group sessions?

Mr Manning: That is right—for individuals or small groups. For example, professional services could cover things like anger management or addressing confidence issues, so it might be appropriate to do it in a group session. Where they are larger group sessions attended by six or more jobseekers, it is capped at \$22.80 per job seeker per hour, GST inclusive, for those allied health professional services. They are the maximum amounts. It could be less.

Senator SIEWERT: Of that \$35 million—it is basically \$35½ million—do you know how many were provided in-house or externally? Is that something you can provide?

Mr Manning: I am not sure off the top of my head. We can take it on notice and look into it.

Senator SIEWERT: If you could, that would be appreciated.

#### Answer

Of the total Employment Fund expenditure on Professional Services of \$35,526,869 (1 July 2015 to 31 March 2017):

- 60 per cent was delivered by a jobactive provider directly;
- 23 per cent was delivered through a Related Entity (i.e. not by the jobactive provider directly, but by an organisation connected to the jobactive provider); and
- 17 per cent was delivered by a non-associated external supplier.