

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Work for the Dole – costs

**Senator:** Senator Rachel Siewert

**Question reference number:** 74

**Type of question:** FPA Friday 27 February 2015, pages 48-49

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

1. Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. I have a few more questions here, and I do realise that we are going to be tight for time. In terms of the evaluation process, are you putting that in from the word go, in terms of the usefulness and effectiveness of the program?

Ms Williams: Certainly, Senator. That is part of the design process that we are working through now, but the intention is that the evaluation will be built in now, early, and that it will be very rigorous.

Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Will you be able to table that—how soon will those documents be available? Presumably, if this is starting in July, which is the not-too-distant future, are you able to take on notice to table those to this committee?

Mr Eccles: When they are complete, yes, absolutely.

2. Senator SIEWERT: How many people are in scope?

Mr Eccles: About 37,000—is that right?

Mr Bulman: It is 37,000 in the RJCP footprint at the moment.

Senator SIEWERT: What proportion of those are Aboriginal people?

Mr Bulman: I do not have a breakdown of "Aboriginal", but I do have a breakdown of Indigenous—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander—which is around 83 percent of our caseload.

Senator SIEWERT: What is the cost for administration for this?

Mr Eccles: What do you mean by—

Senator SIEWERT: To run it.

Mr Eccles: From the department's point of view, or including the providers?

Senator SIEWERT: Can I have both providers and for the department?

Mr Eccles: I think we would need to take on board the departmental costs. It is a team in Ms Williams area but it is also our network. That is going to be an estimate only, because all of our network staff are going to be involved in some way in working with communities, and it might be one-third or half of their day some days, and other times full days. So why don't we give you a bit of an estimate of the departmental approach we are taking to resource it—if not

a dollar amount—and we can provide you with some numbers about the amount of money that has been appropriated for this.

**Answer:**

1. The RJCP evaluation process is being developed and will be tabled once available.
2. In the 2014-15 MYEFO, existing funding of \$1.5 billion was redirected over four years from 2014-15 and an additional \$94.9 million provided to reform the RJCP.

Delivery is overseen by a team of national office staff, and implemented by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regional network. The reforms to the RJCP are resourced from within existing departmental funding.