

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous

Topic: Community Development and Employment Projects - figures

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

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Question:

Senator SIEWERT: I am aware that Senator McLucas will want to jump in in a sec. I have two questions, then I will hand over. Minister, you made a comment that the CDEP did not engage with RJCP. Do you have figures on the number of people that came out of CDEP that did not go into RJCP or engage?

Senator Scullion: I am not sure if we have them to hand. If we do not, we will take them on notice.

Mr Bulman: No, I would have to take that one on notice, Senator. When CDEP transitioned into RJCP, I think there was some disruption in the level of activity as they entered into the new service that came as part of the implementation challenges.

Answer:

At 30 June 2013 there were 10,679 CDEP participants in remote Australia undertaking activities. On 1 July 2013, these CDEP participants transitioned into the RJCP.

RJCP providers were required to meet with all job seekers (including former CDEP participants) and commence delivery of new RJCP services, by the end of August 2013.

The RJCP experienced a number of implementation challenges, including those associated with the late announcement of providers. This resulted in only 6,501 of the former CDEP participants (61 per cent) commencing in the RJCP by 28 August 2013. Of these, only 1,772 were recorded as participating in activities, with just 487 participating in structured (work-like) activities.

By the end of December 2013, 8,212 (77 per cent) former CDEP participants had commenced in RJCP. Of these, 4,193 were recorded as participating in activities, with 2,408 in structured activities.