

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** RJCP

**Senator:** McCarthy, Malrindirri

**Question reference number:** 126

**Type of question:** FPA Friday 21 October 2016, page 57

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 4

**Question:**

Senator McCARTHY: Will you be able to provide on notice the number of people who receive penalties out of the 33,000?

Ms Williams: That is what we were looking to provide.

Senator McCARTHY: I was just clarifying that. I thought that was what you were referring to there. I think Senator Dodson just wanted to check on breaches.

Senator DODSON: If you could give us the demographic breakdown of where the maximum breaches are occurring—you may not be able to do that today, but if you could take that on notice—that would be useful. Also, is there an assessment process for the contractors that deliver these programs and an assessment of the quality of their capacities in delivering the programs? Obviously, we would also be interested to know: at what stage is the renewal—if there is to be renewal—of contracts for the delivery of the services? There are a couple of other questions. You may want to take that on board as well. I think we are going to have some matters on board, Mr Chair, because we are not going to get through the many other questions that we have here.

**Answer:**

In the quarter ending June 2016, 12,235 job seekers received financial penalties.

A table of financial penalties applied to Community Development Programme (CDP) job seekers in 2015-16 is at [Attachment A](#) and includes demographic breakdowns by: state, age group, male/female and Indigenous status.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (PM&C) approach to provider performance and compliance is outlined in the CDP Programme Management Framework (PMF) which is available to providers.

Under the PMF, PM&C undertakes six-monthly performance reviews where providers are assessed against key performance indicators and action taken to address areas of underperformance.

In addition to this, provider performance is subject to ongoing and regular desktop and on-site monitoring by PM&C's Regional Network.

The majority of CDP Funding Agreements are five-year agreements entered into by the former Labor Government and these expire on 30 June 2018. Contracting arrangements for CDP beyond this date is a decision for the Government.

There are a small number of Funding Agreements that cease at some time before 30 June 2018. The decision on whether to extend these Funding Agreements is based on the performance of the individual providers and the best interests of job seekers.

## Demographic breakdowns of financial penalties applied to CDP job seekers in 2015-16

### Financial Penalties incurred by CDP job seekers in 2015-16

Financial Penalty Type	WA	SA	NSW & QLD	NT	NATIONAL
No Show No Pay	22,662	7,390	32,861	62,829	125,742
Non-Attendance Failures	161	19	68	427	675
Reconnection	169	66	108	744	1,087
Serious failures	3	0	1	8	12
CCAs	2,586	1,209	4,742	10,412	18,949
UE NPPs	40	9	42	98	189
Total Financial Penalty events	25,621	8,693	37,822	74,518	146,654
<i>Number of unique job seekers</i>	<i>4,791</i>	<i>1,112</i>	<i>5,229</i>	<i>9,545</i>	<i>20,409</i>

\* Note that job seekers may move between states and so the national total is not equivalent to the sum of unique job seekers in each state.

\*\* NSW and QLD have been merged together to protect the identities of the smaller number of communities and service providers working with CDP in both states.

Financial Penalty Type	Under 21	21 to 30	41 to 54
No Show No Pay	14,261	50,982	23,583
Non-Attendance Failures	74	240	168
Reconnection	144	478	176
Serious failures	2	4	1
CCAs	1,767	8,561	3,037
UE NPPs	27	61	47
Total Financial Penalty events	16,275	60,326	27,012
<i>Number of unique job seekers</i>	<i>2,643</i>	<i>7,882</i>	<i>4,356</i>

Financial Penalties incurred by CDP job seekers in 2015-16  
(by sex)

Financial Penalty Type	Female	Male
No Show No Pay	49,006	76,736
Non-Attendance Failures	323	352
Reconnection	451	636
Serious failures	5	7
CCAs	7,153	11,796
UE NPPs	62	127
Total Financial Penalty events	57,000	89,654
<i>Number of unique job seekers</i>	<i>7,877</i>	<i>12,532</i>

Financial Penalty Type	Indigenous	Non Indigenous
No Show No Pay	116,669	9,073
Non-Attendance Failures	632	43
Reconnection	1,019	68
Serious failures	11	1
CCAs	17,888	1,061
UE NPPs	146	43
Total Financial Penalty events	136,365	10,289
<i>Number of unique job seekers</i>	<i>18,325</i>	<i>2,084</i>