

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 2 – Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0722_13

Senator Scullion asked on 18 October 2012 , Hansard page 72

Question

Indigenous Youth Mobility Program cuts

Senator SCULLION: If they have the same sort of level of competence across these how are you going to say who loses? Is it just going to be averaged across the board, or are you going to be selective about how the cuts are made? Mr Davies: We are still working through that. We are looking at criteria. There are different patterns of participation. There are also different patterns of young people's course participation. You will recall that the target is to get certificate IIs and IIIs—quite upper-level courses—and there is a range of participant numbers and patterns. When you think that, 'We'll get a new tranche,' some of the places have fewer new people coming in because they have young people on higher-level courses which go across years. We have to look at the pattern of the participation of the young people as well as the performance of the provider in retaining those young people and getting them through to completion. We will then have to make judgements, yes, about where those reductions are. Senator SCULLION: Perhaps on notice: it would be useful to articulate that process. Ms Paul: That is fine.

Answer

The 2012-13 Budget brought about a reduction in funded Indigenous Youth Mobility Program places by 50, from 324 to 274. This takes effect from 1 January 2013. No participants currently engaged in the Program will be affected by the reduction.

Currently, there are six providers delivering the Indigenous Youth Mobility Program across 16 host locations. As current contracts cease on 31 December 2012, a review of the performance of each provider was completed to inform delivery arrangements in 2013. As a result of the review, participant places in some host locations will reduce in 2013.

The review determined that the critical performance indicators in relation to the efficient and effective delivery of the Program by providers were sustained participation and course completion rates.

Allocation of the 274 places across the 16 host locations in 2013 is based on the capacity of each provider to achieve participation and course completion targets. Completion targets include a strong focus on achieving Certificate III or higher qualifications for some 60 per cent of overall completions.