

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013

PM&C Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Mental Health Commission
Outcome/Program: National Mental Health Commission
Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 74

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?

For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.

What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date.

Answer:

All employees of the National Mental Health Commission who meet the Government's eligibility criteria can receive payments under the paid parental leave scheme.

As at 11 February 2013 no Commission staff are in receipt of paid parental leave payments.

The National Mental Health Commission utilises the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Enterprise Agreement 2011-14 which states:

"An employee who has at least 12 months continuous service in the APS and is the primary caregiver is entitled to unpaid parental leave of up to 52 weeks (12 months) in accordance with the National Employment Standards (NES). Upon request from the employee, the department will agree to an extension of unpaid parental leave for a further period of up to 12 months, immediately following the end of the initial 12 month period."