

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Public Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 25 May 2006

Question: HS18

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink – Welfare to Work - Contact Model

Hansard Page or Written Question on Notice: F&PA 97

SENATOR WONG asked on 25/5/2006:

Senator WONG—Are you able to tell me, in each of the six offices, what is the current percentage of customers who have a fortnightly lodgement or fortnightly engagement?

Ms Hogg—I do not have the information per office, but we could get that for you if you wanted to know the base we are starting from.

Senator WONG—If you are able to.

Ms Hogg—Yes.

Senator WONG—What I am interested in, and maybe there is someone here who can tell me, is what the increase is likely to be. What will 65 or 66 per cent to 90 per cent mean in raw numbers?

Ms Hogg—We can get that for you.

Answer:

The table below details the number of Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) customers as at 28 April 2006 (immediately prior to the commencement of the trial) for each of the six Welfare to Work Contact Model trial sites. It also includes the number and proportion of customers who are required to lodge their Application for Payment form fortnightly, and projects the number of customers for each site who would lodge under the proposed 90 per cent fortnightly contact model.

	Total customers (Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) 28 April	Customers who lodge fortnightly 28 April	Percentage who lodge fortnightly 28 April	Projection: 90% fortnightly lodgement	Increase in customers who lodge fortnightly assuming 90%
Dubbo	2,682	1,631	60.81%	2,414	783
Launceston	5,735	3,753	65.44%	5,162	1,409
Marion	4,124	2,608	63.24%	3,712	1,104
Midland	2,780	1,627	58.53%	2,502	875
Caboorture	3,669	2,300	62.69%	3,302	1,002
Warrnambool	1,480	953	64.39%	1,332	379
Total for 6 sites	20,470	12,872	62.88%	18,423	5,551

Notes:

- Data extracted by Centrelink's Performance and Information Branch on 28 April 2006.
- Population is defined as Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) customers who are current, suspended or assessed.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 8 hours and 35 minutes at an estimated cost of \$450.