

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 4 November 2003

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(85) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 16) asked for the criteria for allocating the 1,000 CDEP places.

Answer:

The criteria for allocating the additional 1,000 CDEP Working for Families Places are:

- That the submission is for additional places at remote locations and/or assists clients from remote locations (the definition of remoteness includes social and cultural factors and is not restricted only to geographic indicators).
- That the submission identifies specific numbers to be assisted and confirms that these are “additional” places.
- That the submission has ATSI Regional Office Manager’s and/or Regional Council endorsement to ensure consistency with Regional Council policy and plans.
- That the submission has interventionist/rehabilitative strategies which prevent domestic violence and/or promote family well being.
- That the submission assists victims of domestic violence and/or substance misuse.
- That there is a demonstrable need.
- That there is consistency with ATSI/ATSIS Family Violence Policy.
- That the proposal has measurable outcomes and describes a strategy for monitoring and measuring success.
- Whether there is COAG input/support for the proposal.
- Whether there are linkages to core funding from other agencies.
- Whether equity of distribution of places is maintained across target areas.

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(86) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 16) asked, "I understand that we were advised that ATSIC had begun negotiating with DEWR and FaCS around these Commonwealth agencies linking funding to support some formal training opportunities for CDEP participants.

- (a) Is that occurring?
- (b) Where is that initiative at?"

Answer:

(a) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS) has been in negotiation with the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) to progress an initiative. ATSIS has no funding responsibility for the project.

DEWR now has a contract with ANTA to identify the vocational education and training required by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in a number of targeted Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) sites around Australia to negotiate arrangements for the delivery of identified training aimed at moving into non-CDEP employment or small business.

The project is a collaborative approach between DEWR, ANTA and ATSIC/ATSIS.

(b) ANTA has recently advertised for a national Project Manager and Project Support Officer. Applications closed on 19 November 2003 and these staff will be located in the ANTA Brisbane office.

The collaborative group is in the process of identifying appropriate CDEP sites around Australia for inclusion in the project. Sites already involved in the COAG's "Whole of Government" pilot projects and those with an Indigenous Employment Centre will be given priority in the final selection.

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(87) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 18) asked:

In relation to the CDEP:

“Of those who did provide reasons for dropping out, the percentages you gave us did not add up. Is that because of the inconsistency in the data?”

Answer:

As at 30 June 2002 there were 34,246 participants on CDEP. In 2001-02 there was a total of 56,655 participation events record for CDEP. This does not correlate directly to the number of participants as some participants may have ceased participation and later recommenced within the same financial year. Thus the numbers of participants leaving the scheme can not be considered as a percentage of total participants.

It is incorrect to assume that participants are ‘dropping out’ of CDEP or that there is a diminishment in overall participation in the scheme. Utilisation of available participant places in 2001-02 was 99.4%.

Data collected on CDEP participation is inadequate rather than inconsistent. ATSIS is aware of current system limitations in providing reliable data, particularly in relation to participants leaving the scheme, and is developing a new system to address such inadequacies.

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(88) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 19) asked, "How much does a CDEP participant earn per fortnight?"

Answer:

The Average per Participant Rate (APP) per fortnight is \$434.00 for remote locations and \$392.00 for non-remote. Remote and non-remote definitions are determined by ATO classifications.

CDEP participants are employed under relevant award conditions, and where no relevant award exists, State/Territory minimum conditions of employment apply. Each adult participant must be given the opportunity to work sufficient hours to earn at least the applicable APP rate.

Youth rates and 'no work, no pay' policies are applied by some CDEP organisations, therefore, some participants do not receive up to the APP rate. Participants are also able, within CDEP Terms and Conditions, to receive additional money above the APP rate in accordance with hours worked and work performed.

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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(89) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 20) asked, "Can you provide details of the travel budgets for senior ATSIC bureaucrats and the amount of travel monies paid to those bureaucrats over the last three years?"

Answer:

Travel budgets are allocated at the Branch/Group level and not to individual travellers.

However, actual expenditure is recorded at the individual officer level. Below is a table of substantive and acting SES Officers and the amount of travel allowance paid to them over the last three financial years.

Traveller Name	TA Amount 2000-01	TA Amount 2001-02	TA Amount 2002-03
Adams	9,173.71	10,950.20	5,934.75
Alfredson	3,912.25	55.65	
Allmark	4,938.40		
Aspinall			4,180.65
Barrett	183.80	3,71.35	1,462.35
Batho	84.05	1,032.75	6,604.95
Beacroft			829.60
Brown	4,780.45	15,613.90	917.60
Causon	8,343.00	1,864.25	
Cornforth	276.60		1,418.70
Denning	4,670.70	7,818.90	13,368.25
Devereux	806.75	2,289.00	2,116.20
Donnelly	14,875.45		
Emerson			2,574.60
Galvin	8,782.85	3,011.10	
Gibbins		3,451.85	7,438.26
Gibbons			8,544.15
Gillam		91.60	11,825.70
Gooda	6,674.65	12,214.85	9,469.40
Goodrick	5,841.00	6,268.60	1,483.50
Hedger	6,338.15	9,977.35	6,956.30
Hoffman	11,350.65	6,186.35	
Hosch			2,079.95
Jansen			1,239.65
Johnson	699.75	1,947.00	8,323.85
Johnstone	9,682.40	8,740.05	
Joske			7,381.45
Kay			1,915.30

Kelly	5,465.25	7,589.90	11,594.80
Lange			698.15
Malamoo	4,036.65	5,621.05	4,103.00
Malezer	8,728.50	0	
Martin	5,724.90	21,425.15	25,965.00
Mason			691.20
Mastrolembo		5,601.90	1,558.00
Murray		8,990.00	770.95
Neal	3,031.65		
Nelson			2,131.05
Nicolaou			1,703.25
Nimmo	19,632.90	12,585.10	12,391.58
Oakley	13,704.95	15,003.70	0
O'Meara		566.85	
O'Ryan	9,914.10	6,806.80	
Pak Poy			381.30
Parmeter	6,494.40	6,324.90	
Paterson		9,765.20	10,905.56
Patterson			1,789.80
Plowman	5,949.05	604.50	
Pollack			1,088.25
Ramsay	13,602.35	9,334.95	
Richardson	7,949.75	11,131.60	7,677.65
Ross	535.15		
Schnierer			1,223.25
Scott	16,431.75	18,201.40	710.00
Sculthorpe	5,477.60	3,889.35	0
Smallacombe	3,327.20	3,237.66	
Smith		1,897.50	17,890.40
Stacey	26,017.23	23,299.61	16,226.95
Stewart	1,883.75	2,111.65	
Sullivan	20,020.00	10,122.00	
Taylor	13,041.70	15,435.85	5,164.75
Tim			1,318.45
Turner	8,919.45	6,656.40	5,582.45
Walker	16,046.25	8,267.65	
Warlosz		6,697.40	668.50
Watson			141.35
Willis	624.05	3,028.45	0
Yates			1,881.35
GRAND TOTAL	317,973.19	319,581.27	240,322.15
NO OF STAFF	41	43	46

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(90) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Senator Crossin (L&C 22) asked:

In relation to the ATSIC Review, provide a breakdown on what money has been spent and on what that money has been spent.

Answer:

The following table provides a breakdown of expenditure to date. It is anticipated that further invoices will be received in relation to the Review:

Expenditure	2002-03	2003-04
Advertising	26,475.51	25,209.72
Office requisites	24,807.75	7,325.39
Freight & Cartage	2,707.84	2,248.70
Computer Services	3,039.05	
Communications	3,686.69	295.09
Travel	64,274.67	31,213.40
Consultants	297,061.80	2,158.20
Training	23,653.30	1,295.01
Meeting Expenses	9,311.35	1,373.41
Motor Vehicle Hire	2,308.05	2,669.09
Recruitment	2,518.22	
Minor Office Equipment	18,381.18	5,312.24
Office Accommodation	36,024.99	
Staff Housing	8,989.50	
Employee costs (inc super/salary)	87,916.88	33,732.48
Total	611,156.78	112,832.73

Total to date **\$723,989.51**

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(91) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

Senator Crossin (L&C 22) asked, "Is the report in the *Australian* newspaper on 15 September that the cost of the review has blown out to over \$1 million correct?"

Answer:

The total cost of the Review to date has been \$723,988. These costs have been incurred over two financial years as follows:

- Invoices paid by ATSIC for financial year 2002-03 \$611,156
- invoices paid to date for financial year 2003-04 \$112,832

Other costs may still be incurred as not all invoices may have yet been presented.

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(92) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

Senator Crossin (L&C 24) asked:

In relation to the PinPlan product, was there a tendering process for the purchase of this sort of product and, if not, why not?

Answer:

No. The ATSIC/ATSIS procurement guidelines dated November 2002 require a public tender process for all goods and services valued above \$100,000.

The amount paid to Impart Skills for the PinPlan Methodology was \$26,282.80.

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(93) Output: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

Senator Crossin (L&C 24) asked, "Is it correct that goods over the value of \$30,000 must be sought via a public tender process?"

Answer:

No – the ATSI Procurement policy stipulates that public tenders are to be sought for all goods and services estimated to cost over \$100,000.