

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 4 JUNE 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Question reference number: HS 72

Senator: Smith

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 July 2013

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
- b) 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.
- c) 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:

- a) The Department of Human Services is unable to ascertain how many of its employees are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme until such time as the employee applies for assessment under the scheme.
However, the Department of Human Services guarantees that all employees assessed as eligible under the scheme, who select to be paid through their employer, are paid by the Department.
- b) Table A below details the number of departmental employees and their classification who were eligible for the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme and chose to have their payment made through the Department, as their employer, for the financial year to date 2012-13 (from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013).

Table A: Eligible employees for the Department of Human Services who received payment under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme for financial year to date 2012-13 (1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013)	
Substantive Classification	Eligible Employees
Other (Trainees / Graduates / Cadets)	1
APS1	3
APS2	10
APS3	119
APS4	398
APS5	76
APS6	155
Sub Total (APS)	762
Executive Level 1	53
Executive Level 2	7
Sub Total (EL)	60
SES	0
Total staff headcount of employees (including SES) who received payment under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme for financial year 2012-13 to date	822

- c) Departmental staff have access to 14 weeks paid maternity leave under the Department of Human Services Enterprise Agreement 2011-14. A total of 1,562 departmental staff have accessed 14 weeks paid maternity leave under the 2011-2014 Agreement this financial year to date (from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013). Australian Hearing provides staff with access to 12 weeks paid maternity leave. A total of 60 staff have accessed 12 weeks paid maternity leave under the Australian Hearing Enterprise Agreement 2010 this financial year to date (from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013).