

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 268

Topic: Employment of Local People

Hansard Page: 22/10/10 – CA27/ CA28 and CA30

Senators Boyce, Payne and Scullion asked:

Can you advise why there are no local people employed to assist with the construction of the kit homes on Palm Island? Can you provide a breakdown of what proportion of that 30 per cent is comprised of locally engaged individuals rather than people imported into the area? Are they full-time, part-time etc?

Answer:

The temporary structures are Queensland Government houses provided under their own funding allocation. The Queensland Government has a 20 per cent Indigenous Employment policy for its construction programs.

As at August 2010 under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH), 28 Indigenous people had been employed on Palm Island in 2009-10 and 2010-11 working on the completion of 6 new houses and 30 refurbishments. This included 12 apprentices and 16 people employed as trainees, tradespersons and in other related activities.

The 30 per cent local employment figure provided by FaHCSIA officials at Estimates was about the NPARIH program in the Northern Territory.