

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – Friday 22 OCTOBER 2010**

**CROSS PORTFOLIO INDIGENOUS MATTERS HEARING pursuant to Senate Resolution**

<b>Q No.</b>	<b>Outcome/ Agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Broad Topic</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Proof Hansard Page &amp; Hearing Date or Written Q</b>
				<b>Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations</b>	
SQ10-001705	4	Siewert	The NTER Monitoring report - Jobs Package	As of June 2010 there were 2233 positions filled (1706 had been created up to July 2009) 1. Are these ongoing permanent positions? 2. If not, when does the funding for the positions end? 3. How many are full-time positions? 4. What is the average level of employment / remuneration?	Written
SQ10-001706	4	Siewert	The NTER Monitoring report - Job Placements	Of the 46% increase in Job Placements (Jan to June 2010 = 849) over previous 6 months (July to Dec 2009 =582) 1. How does this figure of placements compare to the number of prospective clients in prescribed communities? 2. How does this compare to the placement rates of JSA providers in other areas? 3. Do you have a measure of the success rate of Job Placements?	Written
SQ10-001707	4	Siewert	The NTER Monitoring report - Work Experience	The table 4.6 on p42 on work experience participation rates lists many outcomes as 'less than 20' with the claim that this is to 'protect the privacy of individuals'. 1. Can you explain why it is necessary to list small participant numbers as 'less than 20' to 'protect privacy of individuals'? 2. Has this request for privacy come from the individuals concerned or the organisations involved? 3. Why isn't a similar policy employed across the reporting requirements in other areas? (like IM numbers or in AIHW reports) Also the numbers don't add up – there is a total of 91 at the bottom 4. Is it true that a total of only 91 people were placed in work experience programs as of 30 June 2010? ... That at 1 January 2010 there were 4193 participants? 5. Can you provide accurate total figures for 1 January and 30 June 2010 and update the document? 6. Can you explain the five different 'other' categories?	Written

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SQ10-001777		Boyce	NTER – job creation	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—We are on the NTER at the moment. I am looking at similar job creation in non Northern Territory Indigenous communities.</p> <p><b>Mr Griew</b>—We can give you some figures that are not exactly comparable but we can give you figures relating to the government service delivery—conversions of CDEP and under the government service delivery national partnership agreement.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Okay, we will do that later.</p>	CA 21
SQ10-001749	4	Payne	CDEP - traineeships	<p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—What about the traineeships and ranger positions?</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Senator, I do not have the details of the traineeship numbers with me, but we can get you those figures.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Wasn't there a separate category of ranger positions that was numbered at 60? I thought it was in the announcement in the package. Is that right, Rachel?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—That is what I thought. Or are they separate? Are they Caring for our Country workers?</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Sorry, yes there was, I think, a separate package that was directly funded to the department of environment. That was separate from this package. I think they were described as positions for mature age workers. It was a separate part of the Working on Country program, but I do not have the details on that. We could ask the department.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—If you could that would be good.</p>	CA 24

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SQ10-001746	4	Siewert		<p><b>Ms Wood</b>—The latest information we have says that of the 156 positions created by the WA government 142 of them are filled.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—But is this ongoing funding?</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—I do not have that information with me as to what period of time they are funded positions.</p> <p><b>Mr Harmer</b>—We can get you that information....</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—It would be appreciated if you could check the funding period that those commitments were for.</p> <p>Mr Griew—Not in any way to detract from that issue, the current level of positions being filled in the state positions is 88 per cent.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Across the board, Mr Griew?</p> <p>Mr Griew—Yes, that is across the board.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Of those new jobs.</p> <p>Mr Griew—The 303 that are state government.</p> <p>Senator PAYNE—Are these permanent jobs?</p> <p>Mr Griew—That goes to the funding question—Senator Siewert’s question. We will take it on notice.</p>	CA 24-25

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
SQ10-001748	CDEP	Payne		<p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Yes. They are in the employment services system receiving support to build their skills and find employment.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—How are they spread across the states and territories?</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—I do not have that information with me, but we could get it for you.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Could you take that on notice please.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—For those 1,008 people I would be interested to know which particular providers are involved in that support process.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Mr Griew</b>—These are ex-CDEP clients in outer regional areas. That is the way we are talking about it. It is not in the very remote areas.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—No, I understand.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—When you are taking that on notice can you provide a breakdown of gender. Or do you have that now?</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—No, I do not have that now.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—If you could provide that it would be good.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Yes.</p>	CA 25-26

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q
SQ10-001751	4	Siewert	Closing the Gap report	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—In the report, there were issues for me around work experience. There seems to be some contradictory information, and maybe you could take this on notice. I am after the most recent figures for the number of job seekers in JSA and those participating in work experience.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—Are you talking about the table on page 42, Senator?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—Okay.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Can we get some up-to-date figures, because on the next page it says: At 30 June 2010, there were 1,608 job seekers ... Of these job seekers, 856 ... were participating in a Work Experience activity. Could you just explain the difference between those figures.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—We can take that on notice.</p>	CA 31-32
SQ10-001775	4	Siewert	Increase in the number of job placements	<p><b>Ms Wood</b>—Are you asking whether the people who made up that extra 46 per cent had had a placement before?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—We can take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Thank you.</p> <p><b>Mr Griew</b>—A note of caution: the conversations we have previously had about measuring 13- and 26-week outcomes is probably the place to look for a lead indicator of change here. In remote areas there is quite a high inherent level of job turnover, so you can get quite misleading results. You really want to look at the proportion of people sticking in jobs once they get them and make sure that is staying at or at least approaching the level that you had previously. There is much to do, but that is where the JSA system seems to be getting some traction in remote areas.</p>	CA 33

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SQ10-001752	4	Siewert	Closing the gap report - jobs package	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Thank you. I would also like to quickly revisit my question of how much was part of the CDEP transition. I note that in the report it does say that you cannot be certain, but in the <i>Closing the gap</i> report it does say you can cross-correlate to assess whether a placement is highly likely to be part of the jobs package. I wonder if you could take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Ms Wood</b>—We can take that on notice. I think that in the early days when we were looking at this we were looking to see if there was an increase in outcomes from Job Services Australia and whether that increase was driven by new jobs that were being created under the jobs package. Because those jobs have been in place for some time, that effect is not a problem, so the increase is not driven by new jobs being created. But we can take that on notice and redo the analysis where we try to unpack how many of the JSA placements relate to those particular jobs funded under the package.</p> <p><b>Senator Siewert</b>—Thank you. That would be appreciated.</p>	CA 33
SQ10-001708	4	Boyce/Payne	Indigenous Employment Program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How are you measuring the success or otherwise of the reform to the program implemented on 1 July 2009?</li> <li>2. How many people have accessed IEP services in the 12 months from 1 July 2009?</li> <li>3. How does that compare to the preceding 12 months? Has there been any significant change in the number of people accessing indigenous employment services?</li> <li>4. The expanded IEP was to include more support for employers, including pre-employment training and mentoring. Do you have any figures for the number of people who have accessed pre-employment training and mentoring services?</li> <li>5. Which regional areas and which specific industries experiencing labour shortages have been targeted by the IEP?</li> </ol>	Written

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261	7	Siewert	NTER Evaluation	<b>Ms Halbert</b> —As Dr Harmer said, individual measures under the Northern Territory intervention will be evaluated and will feed into the overarching evaluation. I would have to take on notice whether that particular measure is one of the evaluations.	CA 11
263	7	Siewert	Youth Diversion Program	<b>Dr Harmer</b> —Senator, perhaps you could ask some questions and we will take them on notice. <b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —It actually says that the four projects that were previously funded have been continued and talks about new locations for projects. <b>Mr Heferen</b> —Yes. <b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —I would like to know the new locations and also how many applications there were for other locations. What was funded— <b>Mr Heferen</b> —So what was funded, the new locations and— <b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —Were all the applications for programs funded in locations and, if not, which locations that applied for funding were not funded? <b>Dr Harmer</b> —We will try and get that during the day. <b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —On notice is fine. <b>Dr Harmer</b> —We will contact our Northern Territory office and try and get that for you today.	CA 15
264	7	Scullion	Closing the Gap Monitorin g Report	<b>Senator SCULLION</b> —Is it possible to speak to someone who may be able to throw some light on some of those demographic changes? <b>Dr Harmer</b> —I doubt whether we do, but we will take it on notice because it is possible that our people in the disability support area in FaHCSIA, who are not here today, will be able to shed some light on that growth. I will take it on notice and provide you with some information. I understand the table you are referring to.	CA 19

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265	7	Scullion	Indigenous Employment	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—I wonder first of all if you actually examine trends like that to ensure there is no perverse outcome—</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—Indeed.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—secondly, if that has been done on this information, given that it has only just been received; and, thirdly, if you could provide me with your assessment when it is made or if it has already been made.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—I will take all of those on notice and pass them to my disability support pension people.</p>	CA 19
266	7	Payne	Indexation arrangements for CDEP	<p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Do you know what the assumed figures are, concluding that the index into wage cost index will reduce expenses by that \$9.3 million over four years? Do you have the figures for the assumed wage cost index in the CPI and the non-farm GDP deflator figures?</p> <p><b>Ms Board</b>—I do not have that information with me at this moment but I will try and get that during the session.</p>	CA 21
267	7	Payne	CDEP Participants	<p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Okay. So how long before you expect those participants to in fact be fully registered with Job Services Australia, and how many participants are we talking about?</p> <p><b>Ms Board</b>—There are 1,200 participants who have transferred from the island council to CEA. I do not have the figures for how many of those are registered with the JSA, but I can get them for you.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Could you take that on notice for me?</p> <p><b>Ms Board</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Thank you very much.</p>	CA 23

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268	7	Boyce/Payne	Employment of Local People	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—It is pointed out here that the locals did not even get the job of site cleaning after the jobs were done.</p> <p><b>Mr Tongue</b>—I am happy to take that one away on notice and talk to the Queenslanders.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Yes. It seems to me that people have to explain why they are not using local labour in those conditions, or we are never going to get an improvement.</p> <p><b>Senator Arbib</b>—My understanding is that the figure for Indigenous employment across Indigenous housing is 30 per cent at the moment, which is above the target.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—But, Minister, isn't it a matter of what proportion of that 30 per cent is comprised of locally engaged individuals rather than people imported into the area by the sorts of companies that Senator Boyce is talking about?</p> <p><b>Senator Arbib</b>—That is exactly right.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Can we see a breakdown on those?</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—We accept that more can be done and should be done, there is no doubt about it.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Can we see a breakdown of that on notice, please.</p> <p><b>Senator Arbib</b>—Sure.</p> <p><b>Mr Tongue</b>—We will do our best.</p>	CA 28
269	7	Payne	CDEP Consultative Group	<p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—I want to ask a question about the CDEP Consultative Group, if I may. I think it had its first meeting at the end of last year, and the material available indicated that it was scheduled to meet three times this year. Has it met this year, and on what dates?</p> <p><b>Ms Board</b>—Senator, yes, they have met three times. If you bear with me, I will give you the precise dates. Sorry, I will have to get back to you when we find the right piece of information.</p>	CA 32

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270	7	Siewert	NT Governme nt Jobs	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—I want to go back to the question I asked earlier, and I appreciate that your officers probably are not here so you may need to take this on notice. When I asked about the 486 jobs for local government in the Northern Territory I was told that those jobs had now been made permanent by the NT. I understand that the NT has only said that it will fund those jobs until June 2011. To me that is not permanent. It is good for those people to know that they have a job until 2011 but that is certainly not what I meant—</p> <p><b>Dr Farmer</b>—I will clarify that for you with my colleagues.</p> <p><b>Senator Arbib</b>—Is that for the NT or WA?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—It is for the NT. I am talking about those 486 local government jobs. I am told that the NT government have only guaranteed those jobs until 2011 and are making comments about how they are struggling to fund it until then.</p> <p><b>Dr Farmer</b>—Okay.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—If you could clarify that as soon as you can then that would be appreciated.</p>	CA 49

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
271	7	Siewert	Implement ation Plans	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Are you in a position to tell us, for example for my home state of Western Australia, where it is expected that houses are going to be built, particularly some of the new areas?</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—Community-level detail?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—It was not intended that community-level detail would be included in the implementation plans. Certainly what will be there are the targets for the jurisdiction, funding envelopes, other requirements under the national partnership, but community-level data was not intended to be included in the implementation plans.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—It will not be in the plan, but we will have information about where they are, so we can try and get that for you. Western Australia have been particularly good in terms of meeting their targets and doing the right thing.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Yes. If you could get that information for us that would be very much appreciated, thank you.</p>	CA 52
272	7	Scullion	Constructi on in Blackston e	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—Ms Croft, could you, on notice, provide to me the locations of the ones that were previously purchased and the ones that are now being built—just on those in terms of the New South Wales stock? I would appreciate that.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—Sure.</p>	CA 54
273	7	Payne	Housing in NSW	<p><b>Ms Croft</b>—I would have to take the specific locations on notice, but I am aware that we have had discussions with the New South Wales government. I believe one may be Walgett. I think we had a couple of houses scheduled for that for 2009-10. They did try to acquire houses on the market but were unable to do so and have now acquired two vacant blocks in order to build those houses.</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE</b>—Could you take the rest on notice, please.</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—Sure.</p>	CA 54

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
274	7	Scullion	NT Tenancy Agreemen ts	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—Would we be able to get access to that? Is there one that has not been filled in, so we can understand the roles and responsibilities?</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—We can ask the Northern Territory government. I do not see any problem about getting that for you.</p>	CA 56
275	7	Scullion	NT Tenancy Agreemen ts	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—Given that it is part of the agreement that the Northern Territory government ensures that this happens, I am a bit concerned to hear that people are actually living in the house, doing things when, at the same time or later, they are going through the process of having a tenancy agreement that prescribes the behaviour, the roles and responsibilities and the conduct of people who are already in the circumstance without an agreement. To give an example, how many people in the Northern Territory are currently occupying the residence and have not yet signed a tenancy agreement?</p> <p><b>Mr Boyson</b>—I will have to take that on notice.</p>	CA 56
276	7	Scullion	NT Tenancy Agreemen ts	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—Let us just hope that incentive is sufficient. I understand there are 645 refurbishments and 105 refurbishments are underway. Of the 645 refurbishments, how many of those have a tenancy agreement?</p> <p><b>Mr Boyson</b>—I would have to take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—The issue with the refurbishments and the tenancy agreement is that often people have to move out of their own house to get it refurbished, and the cultural circumstances are entirely different from a new house that does not belong notionally to anyone. It is far more problematic, I understand, in those circumstances.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—It is more difficult.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—If you could take that on notice, that would be very useful.</p>	CA 57

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
277	7	Siewert	Housing Managem ent Agreemen ts	<p><b>Ms Gumley</b>—The approach for property and tenancy management is in line with each state and territory’s system. They are all tackling it a little bit differently. We could probably give you a bit of a description or a few examples from different states and territories about their property and tenancy management arrangements, if you would like.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—It is a state and territory responsibility, but there is a broad framework. They operate similarly but there are differences at the edges. So we can give you some information about the way Western Australia operate in relation to tenancy management, rents et cetera.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—That would be good. Thank you.</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—Under the national partnership, certainly all new and refurbished houses are required to have new arrangements in place. In some jurisdictions, particularly in locations where they are looking to bring an entire community into a broader social housing reform—which is certainly the case in the way the Queensland government is approaching its one social housing system—all housing would be brought under the new arrangements.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—So that is in Queensland. Are you aware if that same thing is applying in WA?</p> <p><b>Mr Tongue</b>—I think we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—We could provide you with some more detail about that on notice.</p>	CA 59

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278 and 279	7	Siewert	Housing in the APY Lands, SA	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—The reason I am asking is that I have had reports that some of them are still vacant. That is why I am specifically asking around those houses. So if you could take that on notice that would be appreciated.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—Will find out for you.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Could you also—and I realise you will need to take this on notice—tell me when the dates of the 33 were completed in Amata, Fregon and Mimili? If you could provide it today, that would be good. If not, if you could take it on notice we would appreciate it. Are there additional houses in those specific three communities?</p> <p><b>Ms Croft</b>—Certainly I am aware of Amata and Mimili off the top of my mind. For questions around Fregon somebody in the room may be able to help me, and if I can I will come back to you before the end of the day.</p>	CA 60
280	7	Scullion	Voluntary registratio n	<p>This is my last question. I will not go to the naming; I do not think that will be useful to anyone. I might put that question on notice, but what are you going to do about the voluntary bit? Who is going to pick them up? There is going to be a point after a while when they have not registered but they are still out there and they still own housing. I would have thought one of the jurisdictions would want to repair that. Is there some mechanism in which at one point you will move to contact these people, or is it the case that you just do not know what you do not know so, if it is a voluntary process, you do not know where they are or who they are?</p>	CA63

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
281	Cross - IBA	Boyce	IBA – Nguiu	<p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—We are trialling some new approaches where we are having a look at agency type arrangements, where, if we can find an Indigenous group somewhere that seems to have appropriate skills and background and structure, we might be able to employ them on a full-time, part-time or whatever basis and get them to be an advocate for IBA and do our first screening sort of stuff. But, to do that and do it properly and on a larger scale, you have to have very strong central systems and very strong controls over what they can do and what they cannot do. We would be pretty uncomfortable if they were doing approvals out there, but, in terms of feeding information to clients about what we are doing and how you might access a loan and helping them to fill out the forms and so on, that could be a very useful way of doing it.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—I was just trying to cast my mind to what sorts of organisations you might mean there, and I cannot think of many. Can you give me—not necessarily names, unless you have some that you can tell us about—examples of the sorts of organisations?</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—We are trialling one up in Nguiu. There is a group up there which we think has some capability.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Are you able to tell us what group that is?</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—Could I take that on notice? There is a name but I cannot think of it off the top of my head.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Yes, and if you could give us a more details about the trial on notice as well—such as how long it has been going, what business it has turned over et cetera—then that would be good.</p>	CA 66

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282	Cross IBA	- Boyce	IBA rate of Indigenou s employees	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Just before I forget, you mentioned that 20 per cent of your staff were Indigenous. Could you, perhaps on notice, give me a breakdown of how many of those people are located in Canberra and how many are located outside Canberra. I presume that you would have to work that out, but if you know off the top of your head then that is fine.</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—I have just about every other figure known to man except the location of these people so I will take that on notice.</p>	CA 66
284	Cross IBA	- Boyce	Loans	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—We talked about 363 loans being approved in 2009-10. What was the value of those loans? Could we get the figures for the two lots that you have given me—the 363 and the 174.</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—For the 363 it was \$86.8 million. I am sorry—I have figures in the summary table and then a table at the back, and what it says in the summary and what it says on the back—</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—If I can have that on notice—</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—It is over \$80 million in both years.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—On notice again, can I have a breakdown of how many are in each of those categories.</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Thank you.</p>	CA 67-68
285	Cross IBA	- Boyce	IBA Staff responsibi lities	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Again on notice, are you in any way able to break down those activities into support activities, administration activities and loan activities?</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—We could try, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Okay. Whatever you can give us in that area would be useful.</p>	CA 70
286	Cross IBA	- Boyce	Average size of loans	<p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—But our average is not that. I would have to take that on notice, because our portfolio—</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—If you could give me both of those on notice, that would be good.</p>	CA 71

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287	Cross IBA	- Boyce	Loan Default Rate	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Perhaps business failures and arrears of more than three months or something might be the way to give it to me, and on notice if need be?</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—Yes, we can.</p>	CA 71
288	Cross IBA	- Boyce	Microloan s	<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—And would you know what the average was of those or what the range was? Again, if you do not mind taking that on notice, that would be good.</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—It is a pretty small product and it is rolling out pretty slowly at the moment. We are having a good look at it to see what the impediment to the take-up of this one is.</p>	CA 72
289	Cross IBA	- Boyce	Business loans program	<p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—No, it is a regular annual amount of money and we have to account for our spending on that. We do our best to do that. We would spend as much money on the program in our business support activities as we do on our loans.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Can you give me that breakdown?</p> <p><b>Mr Gemmell</b>—Yes, we can give you that.</p>	CA 73

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q
290	7	Scullion	Indigenous Land Council	<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—I am sure you will dodge and weave your way around it! ILC were not able to be here today but I want to ask about an omnibus set of bills introduced on Wednesday of last week. There were some disability payments and there was some rescheduling of land in the Northern Territory. There were also some changes to the role and responsibilities of the ILC. I met with them on Wednesday night and they were unable to provide to me exactly what that was about or the motive for that. I wanted to take this opportunity to get an explanation of why and what it is about.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—I need to take that on notice, Senator. I have not got the detail and I do not think the minister will have either. The question is what are the changes—</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—We have some legislation which basically says that we are going to change the responsibilities and the role of the Indigenous Land Council. It has already been tabled or whatever, put on the <i>Notice Paper</i>. I was struggling to try to find out exactly what it meant. Given that I have now talked to the members of the ILC I just happened to meet in Sydney that night—</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—If you had asked the question an hour or so ago, I would have had people here who would have been all over that.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—I had to negotiate to stick it on at the end. I will speak to the minister's office in terms of getting a brief but I will have to do it some other time.</p> <p><b>Dr Harmer</b>—I can get you the answer and perhaps have someone phone you and talk you through the proposals. It would be a simple matter of getting one of my legal people who is across the details—</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—I thought you may have been across it as an opportunity to see if you were across any of the motive behind it. No worries, mate. Thank you very much again.</p>	CA 73

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
420	11	Scullion		<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—I have just a couple of follow-up questions; I think Rachel has covered most of them. In regard to the Northern Territory, I think there were six Indigenous people under the age of 18 who took their lives in four weeks. Whilst we are talking about a spike, as I understand it, from what I could see there was no clear association as to the same community or the same connectivity as we have seen in other spikes in years gone by—for instance, in places like the Tiwi Islands where there was a small island and it was associated with grief about the last one, so they were not copy-cat but there was a lot that happened at the same time. These appeared to be quite disparate—perhaps the same circumstances but disparate. Have you done any work on whether there is any connection? Or is this just an anomaly?</p> <p><b>Mr Kennedy</b>—I am not sure whether there has been any specific work done in regard to that but I am certainly happy to take that on notice.</p>	CA 40
390	8	Scullion		<p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—One last one. Your last point is very important because the AMSs have been doing a lot of the ENT stuff and they are miles in front of the dental stuff. I understand the AMSs do not have the same capacity as the Territory government, for example, may have in the area of dental. So it is clear that dental, it is no mischief, is dragging the chain because the AMSs just do not have the capacity to assist, if you like, in the same way as they have in the other areas. I would be interested to hear on notice some sort of response that obviously the AMSs cannot help out in the same way they have with the rest of the health checks.</p>	CA 43

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
427	4	Boyce		<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Would it be possible to get on notice the number of—</p> <p><b>Ms Robertson</b>—I can tell you, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Which Indigenous communities have aged-care facilities?</p> <p><b>Ms Robertson</b>—We have 29 flexible facilities around Australia. In New South Wales, we have one in Gilgandra, with the Gilgandra Shire Council; Tweed Heads; Wilcannia—</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—If you would not mind, give me that on notice, because if you are going to read out all the ones in Australia we could be here for a little while.</p> <p><b>Ms Robertson</b>—All the 29? Yes, you could be here for a while. I will give you the service name and the location of the service as well as the places.</p>	
126	4	Boyce		<p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—Yes, there are two Indigenous homes that have noncompliance at the moment.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Would it be possible to get a list as at a point of time for all of Australia on that basis? I know it is on the website, but it is quite difficult to access. That is a list of how many non-compliant facilities there are in each state and a list of which of those are in Indigenous communities—</p> <p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—Right, okay.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—and the same for sanctions, please.</p>	

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
127	4	Boyce		<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Perhaps I could tackle this in another way. Are you concerned by the fact that this situation could arise and, if so, what are you going to do to try to ensure that what looks like an extraordinarily rapid deterioration cannot happen? Either you have been given wrong information about their compliance or there was this extraordinarily rapid deterioration in facilities.</p> <p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—The department has written to the agency and has asked for information in relation to the visit. We have not received a response as yet.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—Will that information be made public when it is received?</p> <p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—If it cannot be made public, could you advise me of that? If it can, can we have a copy of it when it arrives?</p>	
128	4	Boyce		<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—And there is one in Toowoomba, I think. That is an extraordinarily high proportion of facilities in Indigenous communities under sanction—three out of four—given that there are a lot fewer Indigenous facilities.</p> <p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—I would need to take that on notice. I cannot comment on that at this point. I have not got the information before me.</p>	CA 44

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
423	2	Boyce		<p><b>Senator BOYCE</b>—They stay at the hospital because there is nowhere else for them to go. Is that how it works?</p> <p><b>Ms Murphy</b>—They would just need to find an alternative at that point, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—I will just turn to the PBS, and I appreciate that I am probably getting to a level of technicality such that you may need to take this notice. I accept that. In terms of the PBS medicines used by Aboriginal health organisations through section 100 arrangements, is there data available that shows that patient compliance has improved as a result of these measures? Do you look at that?</p> <p><b>Ms Kunca</b>—That is a question we will need to take on notice. It is outside of my area of responsibility.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—I thought you may need to, but I am interested in looking at whether the section 100 arrangements are in fact improving the situation.</p> <p><b>Ms Kunca</b>—We will take that question on notice.</p>	CA 46
402	1	Scullion		<p><b>Mr Cotterell</b>—The regional tobacco coordinators and the tobacco action workers are part of the COAG Closing the Gap national partnership. The department has entered into funding agreements with organisations in 20 regions; that was the target for the first year. We made initial payments to those organisations at the end of last financial year to facilitate the setting up of office space and recruitment. Those 20 organisations—in fact it is 21, because we also have a funding agreement with the ACT—have started recruitment. I could take on notice the numbers that we have recruited at a point in time.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—That would be fine.</p> <p><b>Mr Cotterell</b>—I do have a list, but it would take some time to go through that.</p> <p><b>Senator SCULLION</b>—If you can provide that on notice, that would be excellent.</p>	CA 47

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q
404	8	Adams		<p><b>Ms Powell</b>—The department together with FaHCSIA has recently provided joint funding of \$1 million to the George Institute to conduct a project in Fitzroy Crossing. It is a very comprehensive process looking at everything from incidence rates to treatment and referral pathways, looking at how people can better identify FASD related conditions, screening issues, diagnosis, management strategies, and looking for a whole lot of information that might also be transferable nationally to come out of that. That project has commenced.</p> <p><b>Senator ADAMS</b>—When is it due to finish?</p> <p><b>Ms Powell</b>—I will have to take that on noticed. I am sorry, but I do not know.</p>	CA 48
391	8	Siewert		<p>There was an AIHW report that came out on the gap in expenditure on primary health. I know that the minister commented that this is sort of like comparing apples and oranges because the situation has changed so instead of asking a whole series of questions around it I was wondering if we could have a briefing around how the spending has changed now and why is that report out of date?</p>	CA 48-49
403	1	Scullion	Indigenous Tobacco	<p>Under the 2008 National Healthcare Agreement I understand COAG agreed to performance benchmark the halving of Indigenous smoking rates by 2018, that was two year ago. What benchmark figures has the COAG reform council supplied, if any, to date? Have they been reported to DoHA?</p>	CA 47
HS 26	Centrelink	Siewert	Income Management – entrance guidelines	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Thank you for these guidelines. We talked last night about the process that is undertaken when people are coming onto income management under the new legislation. Could I have those guidelines too?</p> <p><b>Mr Tidswell</b>—Yes. We will take that on notice.</p>	CA 20

Q No.	Outcome/ Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date <i>or</i> Written Q
HS 27	Centrelink	Siewert	Income Managemen t – customers spoken to	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b> - I have to say that I find it hard to believe that you do not know the numbers of people that you spoke to in community. I would have thought that you would have kept pretty good records of that. So could you please take on notice the numbers of people, broken down into the payment type, who you spoke to in community on this specific process?</p> <p><b>Mr Tidswell</b> - Yes. Understood.</p>	CA 20