QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000697

Senator McKim, Nick asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 118

Chaplains

Question

Senator McKIM: While you are looking for that—and I am happy to put this aspect of the question on notice, if necessary—I would like a breakdown for the 2013, 2014 and 2015 school years of the number of chaplains in schools. I understand that at one time in that period of time there was the capacity for schools to decide to employ a non-religious support person. Is it possible, for that period of time, to break that down into how many chaplains and how many non-religious people were employed under the program?
Ms Paul: Probably. I do not know if we can do it now, but I think we could probably do it on notice. We will see if we can do it now.

Answer

The number of chaplains in schools in the previous National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme (2012–2014) are provided in the table below. Data is unable to be disaggregated to the individual year and is provided for the life of the programme.

These figures have been drawn from SQ14-000958 which was provided in response to a question asked during Budget Estimates 2014–2015.

Table 1: National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme

2012–2014 (as at 18 June 2014)	
Number of chaplains	2336
Number of student welfare workers	606
Total	**2942**

The 2015 National School Chaplaincy Programme (NSCP) figures were provided to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee, as stipulated in the 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 118.

The NSCP commenced on 1 January 2015 and the Australian Government is not required to collect information on the number of chaplains being employed in participating schools under the terms and conditions of the Project Agreement for the National School Chaplaincy Programme.