

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: CDP

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

Question reference number: 186

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- It is noted that current Community Development Programme contracts expire on (or before) 30 June 2018, and that the Government has the option to extend these contracts for up to 5 years if it chooses.
 - Can the Government advise what its current intentions are in relation to the (i) extension (ii) purchasing and/or (iii) revision of the CDP contracts that will expire on that date.
 - Can the Government advise as to what work is being or has been undertaken in relation to this issue, including advice to or consultation with stakeholders in relation to future processes for tendering or rolling over contracts?
 - Can the Government advise as to any preliminary findings from the evaluation it has commissioned in relation to the CDP, including any interim or preliminary report from the evaluators.
 - Over the last year, how many CDP Hosted places have been created in group community development activities and real workplaces?
 - Please provide the names of host organisations that have provided placements in 'real workplaces', the number of placements in each, and the length of time of these placements.
 - How many of these placements have given rise to ongoing employment for participants?
 - How many of these placements have included accredited training?
 - Under the CDP Guidelines, Work for the Dole participants are entitled to up to six weeks 'time off' in each year. Please tell us - over the last year - how many participants have had the full six weeks time off, how many have had less than 4 weeks 'time off', and how many have had two weeks or less off.
 - Under 2014/15 financial year, how many RJCP participants participated in accredited training - identify separately Cert 1,
 - Cert 2 and
 - Cert 3 and above.
 - Under the 2015/16 financial year, how many CDP participants participated in

accredited training - identify separately

- o Cert 1,
- o Cert 2 and
- o Cert 3 and above.
- Under 2014/15 financial year, how many RJCP participants completed accredited training?
- Under the 2015/16 financial year, how many CDP participants completed accredited training?

Answer:

CDP Funding Arrangements

Contracting for the Community Development Programme (CDP) post 30 June 2018, will be subject to the usual Government procurement arrangements. It would not be appropriate to release information on procurement arrangements before they are entered into with providers.

CDP Evaluation

An independent evaluation of the CDP commenced in 2016. An interim report from the evaluators with results from pilot research in two remote communities, is in draft and is currently being finalised.

Hosted placements

A wide range of organisations host CDP job seekers, including: charitable organisations; Aboriginal organisations; arts organisations; mining and construction companies; educational institutions; hospitality businesses; local councils and provider related entities. In order to protect the privacy of individual job seekers and individuals in host organisations, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) is unable to provide disaggregated data on host organisations, the number of placements in each, and the length of these placements.

As at 31 December 2016, there were 548 job seekers in a hosted placement.

Between 1 July 2015 and 4 January 2017, there were 2,953 job seekers on the CDP caseload who had been in 3,761 hosted placements. Of those job seekers 17 per cent (502) were subsequently placed in a job and 95 achieved a 26 week job outcome.

Time off

PM&C is unable to provide figures on 'time off' from activities as to provide this information would involve an unfair diversion of departmental resources

Accredited training

PM&C is unable to provide figures on accredited training as to provide this information would involve an unfair diversion of departmental resources.