

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: SEAM Program

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

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Question:

How many parents and children have been impacted by the SEAM program, and in which locations, in 2012-13? Provide details of the number of parents and the numbers of children who had their income support payment cancelled or suspended, in 2012-13.

Answer:

The new model of SEAM in the Northern Territory was introduced to the following communities in 2013:

- Commenced Term One 2013: Groote Eylandt (Umbakumba, Angurugu, Alyangula), Katherine and Katherine Town Camps, Milyakburra, Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Numbulwar, Wadeye and Wallace Rockhole.
- Commenced Term Three 2013: Alice Springs, Yuendumu, Lajamanu, Ngukurr and Tennant Creek.

Attached is a table containing aggregate data for SEAM across all the above communities as at 1 November 2013.

Data for SEAM is provided to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) by the Department of Human Services (DHS).

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DHS SEAM monitoring data: Northern Territory – 1 November 2013

DHS monitoring data	As at 1 November 2013
ENROLMENT DATA	
Parents ever in-scope for SEAM enrolment component <i>(Since 2013)</i>	2345
Parents currently in-scope for SEAM enrolment component <i>(Point in time data)</i>	1833
Children ever in-scope for SEAM enrolment component <i>(Since 2013)</i>	4237
Children currently in-scope for SEAM enrolment component <i>(Point in time data)</i>	3161
Children whose parents have been issued an enrolment notice <i>(Since 2013)</i>	3003
Percentage of children enrolled <i>(Point in time data)</i>	95.8%
Reasonable excuse or special circumstances for enrolment <i>(Point in time data)</i>	Less than 20**
Total enrolment income support payment suspensions <i>(Since 2013 and up to 25 October 2013)</i>	243 suspensions for 238 parents in relation to 321 children
Current enrolment income support payment suspensions <i>(Point in time data)</i>	Less than 20 parents suspended in relation to less than 20 children**
Total enrolment income support payment cancellations <i>(since 2013)</i>	0
ATTENDANCE DATA	
Parents ever in-scope for SEAM attendance component <i>(Since 2013)</i>	1904
Parents currently in-scope for SEAM attendance component <i>(Point in time data)</i>	1597
Children ever in-scope for SEAM attendance component <i>(Since 2013)</i>	3260
Children currently in-scope for SEAM attendance component <i>(Point in time data)</i>	2636
Number of conference notices issued <i>(Since 2013)</i>	349
Number of conferences held <i>(Since 2013)</i>	273
Number of conferences attended by social worker <i>(Since 2013)</i>	267
Number of compliance notices issued <i>(Since 2013)</i>	128
Special circumstances for attendance <i>(Since 2013)</i>	Less than 20**
Total attendance income support suspensions <i>(Since 2013)</i>	31 suspensions

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	for 29 parents in relation to 32 children
Current attendance income support suspensions (<i>Point in time data</i>)	Less than 20 parents suspended in relation to less than 20 children**
Total attendance income support cancellations (<i>Since Term 1 2013</i>)	0

***For indicators where the total is below 20, 'less than 20' is stated to protect the privacy of individuals.*