

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. CA0034_13

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

IEP funding

Can you please provide an update on the IEP, including the number of employment commencements and commitments? Given the significant demand for this project, have you had to strike out applications due to a lack of funds? Do you think this will occur during the financial year? Given that there are 800 live IEP projects, some of which may end - do you have a breakdown of the number of projects that will no longer receive funding, the number that will receive funding for the first time and the expected changes in job outcomes? • Can you tell us how much money is currently applied to projects, and total spending to date in each state and territory?

Answer

In the 2012-13 financial year to 28 February 2013, there were 16 213 commencements into Indigenous Employment Program (IEP) projects of which 8179 were into employment.

In the 2012-13 financial year the IEP budget is \$172.5 million and to 28 February 2013 total expenditure on IEP projects was just over \$108 million. This expenditure was on IEP Tailored Assistance projects and on IEP pre-designed projects such as Indigenous Wage Assistance and Indigenous Cadetship Support. State expenditure data is only available for IEP Tailored Assistance projects and for this period was \$85.1 million.

The IEP is project based funding and ongoing funding is not guaranteed. All projects are assessed against criteria to ensure that the IEP funds high quality projects with a focus on those which result in strong employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.