

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 1 - 2 November 2006

Question: **sbt 84**
Topic: **Attendance at Seminars**
Hansard Page: **E105**

Senator SHERRY asked:

Could you take on notice to inquire as to the attendance at those seminars? Frankly, I am surprised that you have not done that, simply to give some idea of the level of interest in the area.

Mr McCray—We have some broad qualitative feel. As you would expect, it varies quite a bit from big city seminars to rural and remote ones.

Senator SHERRY—What does the broad qualitative data indicate?

Mr McCray—It indicates that at some seminars in small places on relatively narrow issues we have only seen half a dozen people attend, which would have been offered regardless of whether we were running the campaign or not. You get a larger number—20 or 30 people—in more populous areas.

Senator SHERRY—Going to the issue of populous areas, are we getting a good geographic spread of seminars on offer?

Mr McCray—It is not too bad. That was something we were quite concerned about. We did not want to simply stick to the large population centres. Through working with a range of financial service industry providers and some community sector providers, and also through the relationship we have with the CPAs, we have quite a reasonable geographic spread. I cannot pretend we have one on in every town in Australia, but it is not a bad regional spread.

Senator SHERRY—Could you give me on notice a breakdown state by state and the numbers in attendance?

Mr McCray—We can certainly take that on notice.

Answer:

The Understanding Money website lists providers that run financial literacy seminars in each State and Territory. The enclosed table shows the number of seminars that were offered by these providers between 30 July and 31 December 2006. Data on attendance will be available after the end of the campaign.

National online seminars	11
New South Wales	294
Victoria	100
Queensland	115
Western Australia	83
South Australia	66
Tasmania	9
Northern Territory	2
Australian Capital Territory	10