

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2004-2005 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
17 FEBRUARY 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 1: Efficient and effective labour market assistance

Output Group 1.2: Labour market programme management and delivery

Outputs 1.2.2: Employment services

Question Number: W216-05

Question:

Senator Crossin asked in writing:

Can you give us an update overall on where this Indigenous Youth Employment program is at, beyond just the ones successfully tendering to be the consultants? How many consultants are there for instance and what ratio will there be of mentor to “pupil”?

Answer:

Up to 30 consultants will be engaged by Job Network providers under the Indigenous Youth Employment Consultants programme. The first 14 consultants have been recruited and commenced work with Job Network providers in the selected Employment Service Areas (ESAs).

The aim of the Indigenous Youth Employment Consultant (IYEC) programme is to enhance education, training and employment outcomes for the growing population of Indigenous young people aged 15 to 19 years old currently within and outside the Job network and Centrelink systems.

Specifically the programme will target Indigenous young people who are:

- disengaged from school;
- want to leave school and are considering entering the workforce; and
- intend continuing with their education and/or training before entering the workforce and would benefit from additional support to maintain participation.

Preparation for a second RFT process to engage a further 16 consultants is underway (to engage a total of 30 consultants). It is anticipated these consultants will commence in July 2005.

The number of participants each consultant will service will vary depending on the type and amount of assistance required by each participant. Local circumstances in each of the ESAs such as the size of the Indigenous youth populations, including dispersal of the population across the ESA, size of the labour market and access to other State and Commonwealth services will also affect the numbers of participants assisted by each consultant.