Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2011–2012

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0369_12

Senator Fifield asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 68.

Question

SEAM - Enrolment Suspensions

Senator FIFIELD: Okay, thank you. Could the department provide the latest figures on the number of parents who have had their Centrelink payments suspended because their children were not enrolled at school, in each of the six Northern Territory trial sites? [...] Senator FIFIELD: Do we know what it is at this point in time? Mr Kovacic: We would need to take that on notice. Mr Roddam: Take it on notice, yes.

Answer

As at 1 April 2011 (and since SEAM began), across the Northern Territory, six parents (with respect to seven children) have had their income support payments suspended for failing to provide enrolment information for their children.

A breakdown of enrolment sanctions for all Northern Territory SEAM trial sites has not been provided due to the small number of sanctions which may result in the parents or children being identifiable.