

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 27 May 2010 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Job Seeker Reporting Requirements

Question reference number: HS 22

Senator: SIEWERT

Type of question: Hansard F&PA page 112, 27 May 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator SIEWERT - So what about the long-term unemployed?

Mr Pratt - Senator, I understand where we are getting slightly at cross-purposes. In terms of the fortnightly interviews, those are focused on people in their first 13 weeks of unemployment. These are people who do not receive very substantial services or assistance from the employment service provider. If an employment service provider is actively assisting a very disadvantaged job seeker - for example, under stream 4 of the Job Services program - the Centrelink interviews will be far less frequent. They will be 12 weekly. So there is no overlap of that sort, if that is what you are worried about.

Senator SIEWERT - Have you got a table that articulates this?

Mr Pratt - Yes.

Senator SIEWERT - Can you table that, please - not take it on notice but table it so I have got it now and I do not have to wait.

Mr Pratt - We will try and get it to you as quickly as we can. I do not know that we have a table that is in suitable form for tabling.

Answer:

The table below outlines the participation contact interview frequencies that will apply from 1 July 2010.

Frequency	Contact Profile
2 weekly	• Weekly payment initiative job seekers. • Job seekers in first 13 weeks and assessed as job ready.
4 weekly	• Early School Leavers. • Young job seekers under 25 and with job search as their requirement and not undertaking an approved activity or training. • Very long term unemployed and in receipt of an activity tested income support payment for more than 5 years. • Job seekers who have a poor history of compliance and have had a Comprehensive Compliance assessment applied with penalty or finalised without penalty in the previous six months.
6 weekly	• Job seekers in stream 1, 2 or 3¹ undertaking job search or other approved activities and not very long-term unemployed. This includes those in the work experience phase.
12 weekly	• Principal carer parents with participation requirements. • Job seekers in Disability Employment Services. • Job seekers undertaking a full time approved activity of more than 13 weeks. • Mature age job seekers over 55. • Job seekers with an exemption of more than 13 weeks.

¹ There are four streams available to job seekers from Employment Services Providers. They are known as stream 1-4 with stream 1 being job ready customers and stream 4 customers with the higher level of barriers to employment.