

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 27 May-6 June 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Social Inclusion Unit funding

Senator: Senator Fifield

Question reference number: 19

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Question:

Senator FIFIELD: I might leave NDI questioning there. I do have a couple of Social Inclusion Board questions. At the last estimates it was indicated that the cost of the social inclusion unit or activities of PM&C for 2011-12 was \$2.14 million, and there was a subsequent letter of advice from the department correcting that to \$2.066 million for 2011-12. That was the department's best estimate on disaggregating the costs of the social inclusion unit. I know you have everything bundled together in larger pots these days. What is the anticipated expenditure for 2012-13? Is it of a similar magnitude?

Ms Cross: I think for 2012-13, given efficiency dividends and other savings applied to the department, the expenditure will be less than in the question on notice.

Senator FIFIELD: So, do we round that down to \$2 million? What figure should we use?

Ms Cross: If you want an exact number I would have to take that on notice, but I expect there would be a reasonable saving as a result of departmental savings.

Senator FIFIELD: Thank you. If you could take it on notice for 2012-13 and also over the forward estimates period, that would be appreciated. Are you able at the moment to at least say what the expenditure is for the year to date?

Ms Cross: We will have to check that with someone outside the room.

Answer:

As at 31 May 2013 net expenditure for the Social Inclusion Unit was \$1,362,685 with a year-end forecasted figure of \$1,612,186. This includes all employee expenses, supplier expenses and Australian Social Inclusion Board expenses.

The Social Inclusion Unit's budget for the forward estimates period is:

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2013-14 (Budget Estimate)	2014-15 (Budget Estimate)	2015-16 (Budget Estimate)	2016-17 (Budget Estimate)
1,705,963	1,712,787	1,723,920	1,736,849