

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0465) Program 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees

Senator Cash asked:

AMEP: In written response to QON SE11/0409 no meaningful data was provided on the number of youths accessing this service. Is this data available? If not why not? If so, how many people have accessed this service? Where and by what means did they access the service? What is the budgeted expectation of the number of people who will avail themselves of this service? How many young people that are eligible to utilise this service?

Answer:

For the period 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011, there were 33 clients aged between 15 and 17 who accessed the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP).

Migrant and humanitarian entrants aged between 15 and 17 who become disengaged from mainstream education can access the AMEP which may be better suited to their needs.

AMEP providers work closely with the school authorities to ensure that clients between the ages of 15 and 17 access the AMEP through referrals from community organisations and mainstream schools.

The AMEP is a demand driven program. Access to the AMEP for clients aged between 15 and 17 is decided on a case by case basis. This cohort makes up a small proportion of the overall AMEP client numbers and it is anticipated that these numbers will remain low.