

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 489

Topic: FAHCSIA Budgeting – economic development and participation

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Payne asked:

Please outline in detail the funding changes in FAHCSIA that result in the budgeted expenses for economic development and participation falling from around \$190m per year across the forward estimates to around \$90m per year.

Please explain why grandfathered wage recipients need to remain on CDEP for a further five years.

Answer:

The funding change represents the redirection of funds from the Community Development Employment Projects Program to the Remote Jobs and Communities Program.

The composition of funds in the forward estimates is comprised of both community development funds and the extension of wage funds for grandfathered participants. For example, in 2013-14 Community Development Funds equate to \$40.0 million and the extension of wages equate to \$46.4 million.

In transition to the Remote Jobs and Communities Program, the Government has decided that grandfathered participants will continue to receive CDEP wages until 30 June 2017 to provide stability and certainty for grandfather participants as they move to the new arrangements.