SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING 30, 31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased Workforce Participation

Output Group 3.1: Working Age Policy

Outputs 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation

Question Number: W105-06

Question:

Senator Carr provided in writing:

Please provide an update on activities since the signing of these two agreements in late 2003.

Answer:

Since the signing of the Shared Responsibility Agreements, activities have centred on a Whole-of-Government approach working with other Australian Government agencies and the Queensland State Government. Activities across both levels of government include:

- developing and implementing community plans in the Lockhart River and HopeVale communities that identify community priorities and aspirations;
- working to implement the Lockhart River community plan through funding and supporting the Puuya Strategy (an implementation strategy) and Multipurpose Centre;
- establishing the PuchiWu Fishing Company in Lockhart River community;
- developing a Whole-of-Government approach to sustain Land and Sea Centres and natural resource management and usage;
- investigating streamlining funding assistance to Lockhart River;
- improving policing in HopeVale;
- completing health planning processes;
- developing structured education and training programs including work ready, construction and supervisor training;
- investigating and supporting enterprise opportunities such as, accommodation at Lockhart River airport, further developing the commercial potential of the market gardens and bush food nurseries in the communities, operating a bakery in HopeVale and tourism ventures; and
- providing initiatives for youth in the communities such as, increasing sport and recreation activities, undertaking education and training outside the community and access to job opportunities inside and outside the community.