Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2013-2014

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0143_14

Senator Cash asked on 4 June 2013, Hansard page 54

Question

Supporting job seekers in the transition to work

Senator CASH: I now turn to Supporting job seekers in the transition to work—increase and index the income-free area for eligible income support recipients. In relation to supporting job seekers in the transition to work initiative, which was announced in the 2013-14 budget, has the department undertaken any modelling on the number of income support recipients who are likely to increase their workforce participation as a result of the changes? If so, what was the methodology used to make up the assumptions? Ms Taylor: I understand we have not done modelling on the impact on the behaviour. But— Senator CASH: Have you been requested to do it and you just have not done it, or have you not been requested to do it so therefore you have not done it? Ms Taylor: I will take it on notice. I would need to check whether we have actually been asked.

Answer

The Department has not been requested to undertake analysis into the behavioral impact of the change to the income-free area.