

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability Mental Health and Carers Programme

Question No: SQ16-000142

Topic: BSWAT Tool

Hansard page: Written

Senator Claire Moore asked:

What is the process for determining the amount of wage supplementation that will be provided to ADEs to cover the cost of back pay?

Answer:

Australian Disability Enterprises (ADEs) submit a completed Wage Supplementation Declaration Form available on the Department of Social Services website (<https://www.dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers-programmes-services-for-people-with-disability/australian-disability-enterprises>). The form requests details of an ADE's wage bill, before and after the transition to the Supported Wage System (SWS). The calculation of Wage Supplementation is based on the gap between an ADE's Total Fortnightly Wage Bill for Supported Employees immediately following transition to SWS, and the Total Fortnightly Wage Bill for Supported Employees in the corresponding fortnight one calendar year prior to the transition to SWS.

The gap is paid based on the tapering schedule in the table below and payments are back paid to 1 February 2015 if applicable. The percentages used to calculate the amount of Wage Supplementation payable for a period are also specified in the table below.

Percentage of gap between non-productivity based wage and the SWS wage to be used to calculate Wage Supplementation	Timeframe
100 per cent	From the date of full transition (or 1 February 2015 for organisation who transitioned prior to that date) for the first 12 months
75 per cent	Second 12 months
50 per cent	Next 6 months
25 per cent	Final 6 months
No supplementation despite any other item in this table.	From 1 January 2021