Senate Economics Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2014 3 June to 5 June 2014

Department/ Agency: Treasury **Question:** BET 3666-3669 **Topic:** Restart Wage Subsidy

Reference: Transferred from Education – 24 June 2014

Senator: Collins

Question:

- 3666. I note that the removal of the Mature Age Worker Tax Offset (MAWTO) will save the Government \$750 million. I further note that the Government is providing, in addition to the \$220.7 million over four years previously announced at the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2013 (which will now be redirected to the Restart programme), \$304.1 million over four years from 2014-15 into Restart.
- 3667. Can you confirm then that the total funding for Restart is \$524.8 million, \$225.2 million less than the total saved by scrapping MAWTO?
- 3667. Is the Government aware where the \$225.2 million saved from scrapping MAWTO, which won't be allocated to Restart, will be directed?
- 3668. Does the Government know why was this money was not allocated to Restart?
- 3669. Did the Government consult with/seek advice from, the Department before deciding to scrap MAWTO?

Answer:

- 3666. There is no question but Treasury does note that not all figures asserted in the statement are correct.
- 3667. Funding for Restart is located in the Budget Papers. For more information please consult page 97 of the 2014-15 Budget Paper 2.
- 3668. This question should be directed to the relevant Minister.
- 3669. Yes.