

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

#### **Outcome 1 - Employment**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000124**

**Senator Siewert asked on 01 June 2015 on proof Hansard page 48**

#### **Question**

##### **Work for the Dole cohorts**

Senator SIEWERT: I was going to call them trials, but pilots. Are you able to give us the outcomes—in other words, people who have actually now got jobs, not Work for the Dole jobs?

Ms Leon: It is probably a bit soon to say anything definitive about that because they are in Work for the Dole for six months before they have finished that placement.

Senator SIEWERT: But did they not start in July last year?

Ms Leon: They did not all start in July last year, no.

Senator SIEWERT: But you will have a cohort that did. Did you not have a cohort that started in July last year?

Ms Leon: They did not all start on 1 July, so it is not as though we have a clean six-month cohort. Not all of the Work for the Dole coordinators were in place on 1 July, so there was a staggered start across the last six months of last year. I would have to take on notice how many have actually completed the six months. I only have here the figure of how many started between 1 July 2014 and 31 March. Of course, anyone who commenced that late in the period clearly has not done their six months yet.

#### **Answer**

A total of 3,935 eligible job seekers commenced in the 2014–15 Work for the Dole programme between 1 July and 30 September 2014. Of these, 1,964 (50 per cent) participated in Work for the Dole for a six month period (up to 31 March 2015).

Information on outcomes for job seekers to date under the 2014–15 Work for the Dole programme is covered in Senate Estimates Question EMSQ15-000093.