

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004035

Senator Cameron asked on 29 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 49

Question

Pathway to Work pilot positions

Senator CAMERON: How many Pathway to Work pilot positions will there be?

Ms Jensen: The precise number of placements is yet to be determined. But there will be up to 10 pilots, and any pilot will have a number of jobseekers.

Senator CAMERON: How many?

Ms Leon: It is yet to be developed.

Senator CAMERON: How can you tell me that it will help if you do not know how many?

Mr Hehir: Certainly the experience we have had with the North West Rail Link project, in terms of the work it has done with disadvantaged jobseekers and Indigenous jobseekers, has shown that having a good pre-employment training model and a good model of placement and support have been very effective in supporting jobseekers. We can certainly check the number of people who have been through that program.

Answer

Up to ten Pathway to Work pilots will be established in selected growth industries and/or large infrastructure projects. The pilots will be developed through collaboration between the Department of Employment and the responsible State Government agencies, employers, industry organisations, training organisations and service providers. The numbers in each project will vary depending on the specifics of the project, the local labour market, industry demand, location and other determining factors.

By way of example, the Sydney Metro North West Rail pre-employment project involved collaboration between the NSW Government and Federal Government and employers contracted to deliver the project to meet both industry needs and help develop skills of new entrants to the workforce. Since the initial pilot, there have been five programs run with a total of 57 jobactive participants. The programs had 54 job seekers (95%) complete the pre-employment training, with 42 job seekers (78%) transitioning into employment.