

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004233

Senator Kakoschke-Moore provided in writing.

Question

PaTH internships - displacement

Is the Department monitoring job advertisements that specify an intern to ensure that they are not displacing real job opportunities for either casual or part time work at award rates?

Answer

For each advertised internship opportunity, employment service providers have access to up-to-date information on the number of interns previously placed with the host business, the number of placements that have resulted in employment and any feedback from previous interns about the host business.

Providers will use this information to ensure that placements meet the program guidelines. Additionally, before an internship can commence, a host business is required to enter into a PaTH Internship Agreement, which outlines the conditions of the placement, including:

- that the host business cannot use the internship to displace current paid employees or reduce their hours, including casual or part-time workers; and
- that they have a reasonable prospect of employment for the intern following the internship.

The Department monitors the program to ensure it operates as intended. A review of how a business is using the program may be triggered through data analytics, feedback from job seekers or other workers through the department's National Customer Service Line, feedback from providers, and job seeker surveys.