

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004278

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Relates to previous Employment Question No EMSQ17-003986

Question

Restart Wage Subsidy claims

The Answer to Question on Notice EMSQ17-003986 (copy of Qon on page 104) says in the 12 months to 31 March 2017 Restart Wage subsidy claims of \$13.6 million were made, but the forecast was for \$35.9 million. (That is: \$22.3 million under claimed.)

- Doesn't that mean fewer aged jobseekers are finding jobs than expected?
- Weren't the jobactive contracts arranged to encourage a greater level of engagement from businesses?
- Aren't well under-filled Restart Subsidies evidence there isn't the level of engagement from businesses expected?

Answer

No. Not all qualifying businesses will take up a wage subsidy, nor will all employment qualify for a subsidy. For example, seasonal and non-ongoing work do not meet the eligibility criteria for a wage subsidy. Refer to SQ17-004295 for detail on the Restart wage subsidy.

Refer to SQ17-004287 for details on jobactive engagement with business.