

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

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

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

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004282**

**Senator Marshall provided in writing.**

#### **Question**

##### **Programs to assist those over 50 years of age**

What specific programs does the government have to help the people over 50? What is the utilisation rate of those programs?

#### **Answer**

The Restart wage subsidy program provides eligible employers with a subsidy of up to \$10,000 (GST inclusive) over six months if they hire a job seeker 50 years of age or older who has been unemployed and on income support for six months.

There have been 12,375 total Restart placements since the Restart program started in July 2014.

In the 2017–18 Budget, the Government announced a package of measures to assist mature age Australians to find work. This package includes:

- A new Career Transition Assistance Program will help mature age Australians to reskill, identify new occupations and improve their digital literacy.
- A series of Pathway to Work pilots will strengthen connections between people looking for work and employers in growth industries/large infrastructure projects.
- The existing National Work Experience Programme will be expanded, offering more short term work experience opportunities to people over 50 looking for work.

These new measures will commence on 1 July 2018 at a cost of over \$100 million over the forward estimates.