

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

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

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

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004285**

**Senator Marshall provided in writing.**

Relates to previous Employment Question No EMSQ17-003989

#### **Question**

##### **Long term Unemployed and Indigenous Wage Subsidy**

The Answer to Question on Notice EMSQ17-003989 (copy of Qon on page 107) says in the 12 months to 31 March 2017 Long Term Unemployed and Indigenous Wage Subsidy claims of \$15.6 million were paid, but the forecast expenditure was \$63.1 million. (That is: \$47.5 million under claimed.)

- Doesn't that mean fewer Long Term Unemployed or Indigenous people 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 Long Term Unemployed and Indigenous Wage Subsidy claims 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 SQ17-004298 for detail on the Long Term Unemployed and Indigenous wage subsidy.

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