

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-001018

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

Youth Jobs PaTH - cooling off periods

The Irish experience showed that some companies abused cooling off periods that were set up to prevent job displacement. How will the Government stop that happening here? How will that be effectively monitored?

Answer

In developing the PaTH Internship program, the Department of Employment considered evidence from a range of international and domestic work experience programs, including the JobBridge scheme.

The PaTH Internship program does not feature cooling off periods, due to the fact that PaTH Internships are significantly shorter (four to 12 weeks) than JobBridge internships (six to nine months) and the Department will have in place its own specific safeguards to prevent displacement (explained in EMSQ16-001017).