

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
16 FEBRUARY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.1: Working Age Policy Group

Output 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation

Question Number: W700-06

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

1. Is it correct that the Mobility Allowance increase to take effect on July 1 applies only to people newly going into work via the enhanced Newstart.
2. If so, why does the increase not apply to people with disabilities who are currently working, for example at Business Services?
3. Are people in supported employment and doing day programs in fact excluded from the increase and if so why?
4. What research was conducted to underpin the decision to limit the increase to people who may be able to work the required number of hours independently of support?

Answer:

1. No.
2. N/A
3. The increase will apply to people who are currently working if they are receiving DSP, Newstart or Youth Allowance, cannot use public transport without substantial assistance and are working 15 hours or more independently of support. People working in Business Services will not have participation requirements.
4. No specific research was conducted. See answer 3.