

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0835\_10**

**Senator Cash provided in writing.**

**Question**

**DISABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT**

*Increased participation of people with disability*

2) In the Minister's letter dated 9 December 2009 the Minister also states that 'The introduction of the new arrangements is expected to increase the participation of people with disability in employment across the country'. a) What does the Minister intend the words "expected to increase" mean? b) Please quantify the words "expected increase" in the context of the New Disability Employment Services? c) Will the New Disability Employment Services have failed if this "expected increase" does not occur? If not, why not? d) Will the Minister guarantee that under Labor's new Disability Employment Services there will be a significant increase in the participation of people with disability in employment across the country? If not, why not?

**Answer**

Specific services under the previous Disability Employment Network and Vocational Rehabilitation Services were capped, so some job seekers had to wait for a place to become available. The new Disability Employment Services are uncapped which means that job seekers with disability have access to assistance that will help them get and keep a job when they need it. This is expected to increase the number of people with disability accessing services and to increase the number of employment outcomes. Other policy improvements, including those outlined in EW0836\_10, are also expected to assist Disability Employment Services providers place more people into jobs.