

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No. EW0359_12

Senator Fifield asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 62.

Question

Disability Employment Services - Increase In Demand As A Result Of Budget Measures?

Senator FIFIELD: Just coming back to my original question again, is it possible to disaggregate—I know the demand on DES is increasing, and that is partly a function of the uncapping—the expected total increase in demand for DES as a result of the budget measures? Ms Parker: We could do an estimate on notice, Senator. The one we mentioned around the employer broker, for example, is difficult to estimate. While we are funding 10 broker projects, we have not done a specific estimate of them at this stage, but we will.

Answer

There is one budget measure that is expected to have a direct impact on inflow to the Disability Employment Services (DES) program.

- The increasing participation of Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients' measure in the Building Australia's Future Workforce Package is estimated to result in an additional 5200 participants currently in receipt of DSP volunteering in DES. In addition, it is estimated that 1070 new DSP recipients will volunteer in DES each year.

Additionally, there are a range of budget measures that while not necessarily increasing the flow of participants into DES, are designed to improve the number sustainable employment outcomes for participants in the program. These include Wage Subsidy initiatives, incentive payments to eligible employers under the productivity-based Supported Wage System for and, the Employment Broker Projects which will target the creation of new jobs for unemployed people with disability.