

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

**2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING  
6 NOVEMBER**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 1: An effectively functioning labour market**

**Output Group 1.1: Labour Market Policy and Analysis**

**Output 1.1.2: Research, Evaluation and Reporting**

**Question Number: W260-04**

**Question:**

Senator Campbell asked at *Hansard* page 71:

In regards to the Mature Age Workshops, could the department provide:

- a) a breakdown of where the workshops were held;
- b) the number that attended each of the workshops;
- c) a picture of the age profile of the attendees at each of the workshops; and
- d) a copy of the agenda for each of the workshops setting out sessions and presenters

**Answer:**

a) and b) Four pilot workshops were conducted in 2001-02 in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Bundaberg. Information on the precise number of people who attended each of these workshops is not available. However, there were around 260 participants in total.

A second round of workshops was subsequently conducted in 2002-03 in **Capital Cities:** Sydney (140 participants), Perth (78), Hobart (33) and Darwin (28); **Outer Metropolitan Areas:** Fairfield-Liverpool (60), Dandenong (53), Logan (40) and Elizabeth (36); **Large Industrial Cities:** Wollongong (70) and Geelong (44) and; **Regional Cities:** Gosford-Wyong (70), Launceston (25) Albany (37), Wagga Wagga (8) and Wodonga (26).

The number of participants at the 19 workshops totalled over 1000.

- c) The Department does not have information of the age profile of participants at each workshop. However, the average age of participants across the 15 workshops in the second round was 54 years.
- d) The agendas were broadly similar across each of the workshops although there were local presenters for particular sessions at each workshop. A typical example is attached.

## **Example of workshop structure**

### **The Changing Nature of the Labour Market and Portfolio Employment**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 9.30 – 10.00  | Registrations – Coffee/Tea will be available  |
| 10.00 – 10.10 | Welcome and opening by Mark Tucker-Evans, COTA/<br>National Seniors Queensland  |
| 10.10 – 10.30 | Speaker: Ivan Neville, Department of Employment and<br>Workplace Relations<br>Topic: The changing Australian labour market  |
| 10.30 – 10.35 | Questions   |
| 10.35 – 10.55 | Speaker: Veronica Sheen, COTA National Seniors (Australia)<br>Topic: Managing changes in the labour force of the 21 <sup>st</sup><br>century.   |
| 10.55 – 11.00 | Questions   |
| 11.00 – 11.15 | Morning Tea   |
| 11.15 – 11.45 | Focus group sessions  |
| 11.45 – 12.20 | Panel discussion<br>Hosted by three local employment service providers<br>Topic: How can mature workers best tap into opportunities in<br>the local job market?   |
| 12.20 – 12.30 | Speaker: Local employment services provider<br>Topic: BITES, IT training for Mature Age people  |
| 12.30 – 1.15  | Lunch   |
| 1.15 – 1.45   | Speaker: Local employment service provider<br>Topic: What are the characteristics of the local job market?<br><br>Speaker: Local employment service provider<br>Topic: Job Match and Transition to Work – services in the Job<br>Network for all mature age people. |
| 1.45 – 2.30   | Focus Groups  |
| 2.30 – 2.50   | Feedback from focus groups to plenary   |
| 2.50 – 3.00   | Conclusion: Mark Tucker Evans, COTA/ National Seniors   |