

**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 1.2: Labour Market Programme Management and Delivery

Outputs 1.2.2: Employment Services

Question Number: W294 - 04

Question:

Senator Webber asked in writing:

The Department contributed policy advice to develop a strategic framework to increase economic and social participation in regional Australia – The paper was presented at the Welfare Reform Consultative Forum. The department also helped develop an approach designed to enhance economic participation in selected regions of high disadvantage.

- a) What were the outcomes?
- b) Have any targets been set?
- c) What initiatives were put in place?

Answer:

- a) Several Departments undertook to focus on specific regional areas. The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations is focusing on the Latrobe region in Victoria.
- b) No targets have been set. The objective is to generate employment outcomes by building stronger linkages between employers, the various programme providers and job seekers.
- c) Discussions with the local parties are underway, with a view to identifying specific employment opportunities for young and mature aged job seekers.