

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability Mental Health and Carers Programme**

**Question No: SQ16-000143**

**Topic: BSWAT Tool**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Claire Moore** asked:

Is the department aware of any ADEs that have not been fully compensated for wage increases? Are any out of pocket? What is the department doing to rectify the situation?

**Answer:**

In recognition of the decision of the Federal Court that the Business Services Wage Assessment Tool (BSWAT) was discriminatory, Wage Supplementation is available to offset the costs incurred by Australian Disability Enterprises (ADEs) as a result of transitioning to the Supported Wage System (or the new productivity-based tool when available).

ADEs that transition are eligible to apply to be fully compensated for wage increases for an initial twelve months. A tapering rate of supplementation will be offered at a rate of 75 per cent for the second twelve months, followed by 50 per cent for six months and 25 per cent for the final twelve months. As at 9 March 2016, 11 ADEs have applied for Wage Supplementation.