

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.CA0012_11

Senator Siewert asked on 22/10/2010, Hansard page 33.

Question

CLOSING THE GAP REPORT - JOBS PACKAGE

Senator SIEWERT—Thank you. I would also like to quickly revisit my question of how much was part of the CDEP transition. I note that in the report it does say that you cannot be certain, but in the Closing the gap report it does say you can cross-correlate to assess whether a placement is highly likely to be part of the jobs package. I wonder if you could take that on notice.

Ms Wood—We can take that on notice. I think that in the early days when we were looking at this we were looking to see if there was an increase in outcomes from Job Services Australia and whether that increase was driven by new jobs that were being created under the jobs package. Because those jobs have been in place for some time, that effect is not a problem, so the increase is not driven by new jobs being created. But we can take that on notice and redo the analysis where we try to unpack how many of the JSA placements relate to those particular jobs funded under the package.

Senator Siewert—Thank you. That would be appreciated.

Answer

The Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory Monitoring Report notes that the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) administrative dataset does not record whether a job placement is part of the CDEP Conversion Jobs Package.

While the Monitoring Report does note that by cross-correlating known factors (such as employer names and job descriptions) against other external data sources we can assess whether a job placement is highly likely to be part of the Jobs Package, that comment was carried forward from an earlier report. We no longer collect the information that would enable this comparison to be done.