

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

#### **Outcome 1 - Employment**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-003988**

**Senator Marshall provided in writing.**

#### **Question**

##### **Parent wage subsidy claims**

How many Parent Wage Subsidies have been claimed in the last 12 months?  
What was the total value of the Parent Wage Subsidy claims in the last 12 months?  
What was the forecasted expenditure of Parent Wage Subsidy claims for the last 12 months?  
What was the target for the number of Parent Wage Subsidies for the last 12 months?

#### **Answer**

In the 12 months to 31 March 2017, 3,069 Parent Wage Subsidy agreements were made, with 1,577 job seekers forecast to take up a Parent Wage Subsidy and reach the first payment milestone over the same period. Claims totaling \$3,078,584 were paid in the 12 months to 31 March 2017, while the forecast for expenditure over the same period was \$4,740,860.

Forecast expenditure is based on the assumption that, of those job seekers that reach the 12 week milestone, half of the wage subsidy would have been paid at this point. Due to provider claiming behavior, job seeker attrition and the flexibility in the way that wage subsidies can be paid, wage subsidy expenditure may not correlate with wage subsidy take up. The Department expects the forecast expenditure patterns will become more apparent as data is collected over time.