

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EM1618_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

Work for the Dole - funding for coordinators

As part of the 2014-15 Budget, the Government has provided \$14.9 million over 2 years for Work for the Dole, including funding for Work for the Dole Coordinators. - How has the \$14.9 million be allocated? - Do the 18 Work for the Dole sites share equally in the \$14.9 million?

Answer

How has the \$14.9 million been allocated?

The \$14.9 million allocated to the Work for the Dole programme is set out in the table below.

Description	Total funding (\$ 14.9* million)	
	Administered allocation	Departmental allocation
Total for the Work for the Dole programme in 18 selected areas	\$9.3 million	\$5.5 million
Work for the Dole coordinators	\$ 4.1 million	
Operating Fund	\$5.2 million	

* Note: Total sum subject to rounding

To ensure areas with higher job seeker numbers were serviced during the phasing in of Work for the Dole in 2014–15, \$1.1 million was transferred from the Operating Fund to cover the cost of five additional Work for the Dole Coordinator contracts, bringing the number of contracts 23.

A further \$0.5 million was transferred from the Operating Fund to extend the Local Employment Coordinator services (the Geelong Employment Facilitator) in the Greater Geelong area up to 30 June 2015.

Do the 18 Work for the Dole sites share equally in the \$14.9 million?

Each Work for the Dole coordinator contract is valued at \$220,000. Three of the 18 selected areas have more than one coordinator and therefore have a bigger share of the funding. These areas are:

- Adelaide/Gawler in SA
- Westgate in VIC and
- Nepean/Outer Western Sydney in NSW).