

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING  
19 FEBRUARY**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Output: Cross-Portfolio

**Question Number: W356-04**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Could you provide a list of all administered programs in DEWR, including:

- (a) A description of the program
- (b) The policy objective of the program
- (c) The number of people and/or organisations directly receiving funds/assistance under the program
- (d) A breakdown on those receiving funds/assistance under the program by electorate
- (e) Whether the program is ongoing
- (f) The funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the program (with a breakdown of administered and departmental expenses), including:
  - how much funding was allocated for the program;
  - how much is committed to the program; and
  - how much is unspent.
- (g) An indication of whether an evaluation of the program effectiveness had been conducted:
  - if so, when that evaluation occurred; and
  - the conclusion of that evaluation.

**Answer:**

The Administered Programmes/Appropriations are:

- Job Network
  - New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS)
  - Harvest Labour Services
  - Employment Innovation Fund
- Work for the Dole
- Transition to Work
- Indigenous Employment Policy
  - Indigenous Employment Programme
  - Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF)
- Workplace Reform – Secret Ballot
- International Labour Organisation

- General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS)
- Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees (SEESA)
- Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992

The information requested in relation to these programs has been provided below where readily available.

(a)

Job Network	<p>Job Network is a national network of private &amp; community organisations dedicated to finding jobs for unemployed people, particularly the long term unemployed. Job Network is designed to provide flexible assistance tailored to the individual job seeker.</p> <p>From July 2003, Job Network services have been delivered under the Active Participation Model. This model simplifies and streamlines the employment services provided by Centrelink, Job Placement Organisations, Job Network members and complementary employment and training programmes.</p> <p>Australian employment services – Job Network and Job Placement - are delivered to job seekers and employers from over 2500 sites across Australia.</p>
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	<p>The New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) helps unemployed people to start and run their own businesses. For the first year of the business, NEIS provides training, support and assistance to the participant to become self-supporting and independent of welfare payments. NEIS providers are organisations that specialise in helping unemployed people to put suitable business ideas into practice.</p>
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	<p>Harvest Labour Services provide labour to help Australian producers harvest their crops in peak seasons. All job seekers who are legally entitled to work in Australia are eligible for Harvest Labour Services, not only those receiving income support.</p>
○ Employment Innovation Fund	<p>The Employment Innovation Fund operates as a component of Job Network, with funding of \$4 million over four years being provided. It is a discretionary funding programme designed to provide seed funding to organisations to develop innovative approaches to resolve specific labour market problems and open up employment opportunities. Funding of up to \$100,000 for up to 12 months is available for projects that address a specific employment or labour market problem in an innovative way. Successful projects will provide best practice models which can be used to improve employment outcomes on a broader scale.</p>
Work for the Dole	<p>Refer to page 99 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03</p>
Transition to Work	<p>Transition to Work has been developed for parents, carers and mature age people 50 years and over who are starting work for the first time or are returning to work after an absence of 2 years or more.</p>
Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	<p>The Indigenous Employment Programme provides support for employers and Indigenous people looking for work. It includes the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structured Training and Employment Project;</li><li>• the Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project;</li><li>• Wage Assistance;</li><li>• Community Development Employment Projects Placement Incentive;</li><li>• Indigenous Employment Centres;</li><li>• the National Indigenous Cadetship Project;</li><li>• Indigenous Community Volunteers;</li><li>• the Self Help Programme; and</li><li>• the Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme.</li></ul>

<p>Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)</p>	<p>The ISBF provides funding for the development and expansion of Indigenous businesses and enterprises. Projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the provision of training in how to start and run a business;</li> <li>• helping organisations identify business opportunities;</li> <li>• examining business opportunities through feasibility studies and business planning;</li> <li>• providing advice or support to small business owners and operators that will help build their skills, markets and networks; and</li> <li>• providing other forms of assistance that facilitates the development and/or expansion of an organisation's business operation.</li> </ul>
<p>Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots</p>	<p>Refer to page 142-143 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03.</p>
<p>International Labour Organisation</p>	<p>This is the annual subscription for Australia's membership of the International Labour Organisation.</p>
<p>General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme</p>	<p>GEERS - Refer to page 148 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 14 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2001-02 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio. EESS - Refer to page 148 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 16 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2003-04 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio for the anticipated 2003-04 closing balance.</p>
<p>Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees</p>	<p>Refer to page 149 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 15 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2001-02 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio.</p>
<p>Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992</p>	<p>This is an administrative arrangement that manages the transfer of monthly levy collections between the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the central fund administered by the Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation. For further information refer to page 170 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03.</p>

**(b)**

Job Network	Job Network has three main program objectives these are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help job seekers find work as quickly as possible;</li> <li>• to maximise outcomes for eligible job seekers - particularly the long-term unemployed and those highly disadvantaged; and</li> <li>• to maximise the delivery of high quality, ethical employment services.</li> </ul>
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	To assist unemployed people into self-employment through the establishment of their own small business.
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	To ensure a satisfactory supply of labour to harvest areas that require considerable numbers of out-of-area workers to supplement local labour in order to harvest crops.
○ Employment Innovation Fund	The main objectives of the fund are to trial ideas that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote innovative, community-based action on employment;</li> <li>• address specific employment and labour market problems; and</li> <li>• alleviate the social consequences of local unemployment.</li> </ul>
Work for the Dole	Refer to page 99 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03
Transition to Work	Transition to Work assists people, particularly women and mature age people, return to paid work after long absences.
Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	The Indigenous Employment Programme, which forms part of the Indigenous Employment Policy, aims to improve the employment circumstances and future prospects of Australia's Indigenous peoples by generating more employment opportunities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increasing the level of Indigenous peoples' participation in private sector employment;</li> <li>- Improving outcomes for Indigenous job seekers through Job Network; and</li> <li>- Helping CDEP sponsors to place their work ready participants in open employment;</li> </ul>
Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	Supporting the development and expansion of Indigenous small business.
Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots	Refer to page 142-143 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03.
International Labour Organisation	Australia has been a member of the ILO since 1919. Successive Governments have taken the view that the ILO is an appropriate international forum for Australia to present views on labour matters.
General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme	GEERS - Refer to page 148 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 14 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2001-02 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio. EESS - Refer to page 148 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 16 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2003-04 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio for the anticipated 2003-04 closing balance.

Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees	Refer to page 149 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03. Refer to page 15 of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2001-02 for the Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio.
Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992	This is not a program - it is an administrative arrangement that manages the transfer of monthly levy collections between the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the central fund administered by the Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation. For further information refer to page 170 of the DEWR Annual Report 2002-03.

(c)

Job Network	The number of Job Seekers directly receiving assistance in Job Network in the period 1 July 2003 to 31 January 2004 was 776,075. 110 organisations are contracted to deliver Job Network services.
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	3,301 job seekers commenced receiving NEIS assistance in the period 1 July 2003 to 31 January 2004. 44 organisations are contracted to deliver NEIS services under the Employment Services Contract 2003-2006 (ESC3). A further 11 organisations contracted under ESC3 are finalising the delivery of services to NEIS participants who commenced NEIS assistance before 30 June 2003.
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	Contracted HLS Providers are not paid a placement fee for placing a job seeker into a job. They are paid an agreed quarterly instalment to deliver a range of services. There are four organisations contracted to deliver HLS and the National Harvest Labour Information Service (NHLIS).
○ Employment Innovation Fund	The Employment Innovation Fund came into effect from 1 July 2003. As at 24 March 2004, there are thirty organisations receiving funds from the Employment Innovation Fund.
Work for the Dole	The Department contracts Community Work Coordinators (CWCs) to develop and manage the Work for the Dole programme. There are 118 CWCs providing Work for the Dole services. Across these 118 organisations there are 321 contracts for the delivery of Work for the Dole services as the delivery of services is contracted at the individual ESA level i.e. one organisation may deliver Work for the Dole services in 2 ESAs so that is one organisation and 2 contracts. Part of the funding provided to CWCs is for the purpose of conducting Work for the Dole activities. This activity funding is paid to CWCs and/or sponsors for delivery of the activity. In the period 1 July 2003 to 27 February 2004, 45,924 job seekers commenced in Work for the Dole activities.
Transition to Work	6,143 commencements in 2003-04 up to end January 2004. 34 Contract service providers.
Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	1,869 organisations have received funding under IEP in 2003/2004 to 31 December 2003. This data does not cover Indigenous Community Volunteers or the Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme as DEWR does not produce this information for these programmes. There have been 32,964 commencements under IEP since the beginning of the program in 1999 until January 2004.
Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	71 organisations have received funding under ISBF in 2003/2004 to 31 December 2003.
Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots	None. This appropriation is dependent on the enactment of the <i>Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002</i> .
International Labour Organisation	One organisation.

<p>General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme</p>	<p>As at 29 February 2004, 5,454 GEERS claimants were paid in the financial year 2003/04. 9 EESS claimants were paid for the same period.</p>
<p>Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees</p>	<p>Assistance under the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group employees (SEESA) is not provided direct by this Department to individual employees. The Commonwealth through its contracted agents SEES Pty Ltd advance funds to the Ansett Administrators who make payments direct to individual former employees of the Ansett Group of companies. There were 12,998 former Ansett employees paid to 5 December 2003 from advances made.</p>
<p>Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>



**(d)**

Job Network	Job Network is not administered or funded by electorate. The Job Network is administered on the basis of 19 Labour Market Regions and 137 Employment Service Areas, the boundaries of which do not align with those of electorates. In any case, Job Seekers from one electorate may access Job Network Services in another electorate. This information is not, therefore, readily available.
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	See Entry above.
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	See Entry above.
○ Employment Innovation Fund	See Attachment A for 2003-04 (to 24 March 2004).
Work for the Dole	Work for the Dole is not administered or funded by electorate. Work for the Dole is administered on the basis of 19 Labour Market Regions and 137 Employment Service Areas, the boundaries of which do not align with those of electorates. In any case, Job Seekers from one electorate may access Services in another electorate. This information is not, therefore, readily available.
Transition to Work	Transition to Work is not administered or funded by electorate. Transition to Work is administered on the basis of 19 Labour Market Regions and 137 Employment Service Areas, the boundaries of which do not align with those of electorates. In any case, Job Seekers from one electorate may access Services in another electorate. This information is not, therefore, readily available.
Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	See Attachment B, for number of projects by Electorate for 2003-04 (to 31 December 2003).
Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	See Attachment C, for number of projects by Electorate for 2003-04 (to 31 December 2003).
Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots	Not applicable.
International Labour Organisation	Not applicable.

General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme	This information is not contained in a readily retrievable format. It would involve a substantial and unreasonable diversion of resources from other activities to compile the information as requested.
Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees	This information is not contained in a readily retrievable format. It would involve a substantial and unreasonable diversion of resources from other activities to compile the information as requested.
Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992	Not applicable.

(e)

Job Network	Ongoing
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	Ongoing
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	Ongoing
○ Employment Innovation Fund	Ongoing
Work for the Dole	Ongoing
Transition to Work	Ongoing
Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	Ongoing
Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	Ongoing
Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots	Not commenced
International Labour Organisation	Ongoing
General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme	GEERS – Ongoing. EESS – non-ongoing.
Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees	Non-ongoing
Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992	Ongoing

(f) No. Information disaggregated by program is not provided for the forward years in the budget papers.

(g)

Programme	Date of evaluation	Detail of findings
Job Network	1998 to 2002	There have been three evaluation reports: Stage 1 released in May 2000 Stage 2 released in May 2001 Stage 3 released in September 2002 These reports can be accessed through the Australian Workplace internet site.
○ New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	2002	A separate evaluation of the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme was conducted in 2002 and is available on the Australian Workplace internet site.
○ Harvest Labour Services (a component of the Job Network Appropriation)	2000	No. An extensive study of the need for HLS and NHLIS was conducted in 2000 by the National Harvest Trail Working Group. Main recommendation was that HLS continue and that a new service be established to receive and disseminate information nationally about harvest labour, resulting in the establishment of the National Harvest Labour Information Service under ESC3.
○ Employment Innovation Fund		Each project is required to be evaluated on its conclusion. No evaluation has been conducted as yet because none of the projects have been completed.
Work for the Dole	1997 to 1999	An evaluation of the Work for the Dole pilot programme was completed in 1999, with the release of a report in May of that year. A copy of this report is available at the Australian Workplace internet site.  The net impact of Work for the Dole on participant's post assistance income support status has also been measured. A report of this study is available at the Australian Workplace internet site.
Transition to Work	2004 to 2006	The Transition to Work programme is part of the <i>Australians Working Together</i> (AWT) initiative and its performance is being examined in the context of the AWT evaluation. Reporting arrangements from this evaluation include a benchmark report, scheduled for completion by the end of 2004, and a final evaluation report in June 2006. More information on the AWT evaluation is available at the Australian Workplace internet site.

Indigenous Employment Programme (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)	2000 to 2004	The evaluation strategy for the Indigenous Employment Policy includes a <i>Stage One: Progress Report</i> which was released in February 2003 and is available at the Australian Workplace internet site.
Indigenous Small Business Fund (a component of the Indigenous Employment Policy Appropriation)		No.
Workplace Reform – Secret Ballots		Not applicable.
International Labour Organisation		Not applicable.
General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)/Employee Entitlements Support Scheme		Refer Australian National Audit Report No 20, 2002-03.
Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees		Refer Australian National Audit Report No. 21, 2003 -2004.
Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Act 1992		Not applicable.

Note: Web references are current as at March 2004

## Attachment A

- (d) Below is a breakdown of organisations receiving funding from the Employment Innovation Fund and the electorates in which the organisations are located and the services are provided:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
Western Port ACC (South East Development)	Holt
Islamic Council of Victoria	Melbourne
Restaurant and Catering Queensland	Brisbane
Bakas Consultancy Services Pty Ltd (Bakas Employment Solutions)	Adelaide
Break Thru Personnel Limited (Break Thru Employment Solutions)	Parramatta, Greenway, Fowler
Job Futures Ltd	Bowman, Sydney, Melbourne Ports, Swan, Bradfield, Newcastle, Parramatta, Lowe
Karingal Inc (MatchWorks)	Calwell, Corio, Gellibrand, Maribyrnong
Micado Pty Ltd (Workplace Personnel)	Chisholm
ORS Rehabilitation & Placement Services Pty Ltd (ORS Employment Solutions)	Calare, Perth, Swan
Ostara Australia Limited	Brisbane, Warringah
Royal Blind Foundation of Queensland (Vision Qld Employment Service)	Moreton, Brisbane
Royal Society for the Blind of South Australia Inc	Adelaide
Sydney Rehabilitation Services Pty Ltd (Xcelerate Employment)	Barton, Sydney, Wentworth
VSDC Inc (VSDC Employment Solutions)	Melbourne
WorkFocus Australia Pty Ltd	Stirling
Illawarra Business Chamber	Cunningham
Blind Citizens Australia	Melbourne
Employers Making a Difference	Bradfield
Council on the Ageing	Banks, Barton, Bennelong, Blaxland, Bradfield, Chifley, Cunningham, Fowler, Grayndler, Greenway, Kingsford Smith, Lowe, Mackellar, Mitchell, North Sydney, Parramatta, Prospect, Reid, Sydney, Throsby, Warringah, Watson, Wentworth, Werriwa
IT Skills Hub	Melbourne
HTT Associates	Melbourne Ports, Kalgoorlie
Northern Migrant Resource Centre (Spectrum Employment Services)	Batman

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Electorate</b>
MAXNetWork Employment	Oxley, Solomon
Communicare Inc	Stirling
AMES	Gellibrand, Fowler
Job Futures Ltd	Watson
ARA Jobs	Port Adelaide
Restaurant and Catering NSW	Brisbane, Fisher
Tourism Training Australia	Adelaide, Bass, Brisbane, Calare, Cowper, Denison, Fraser, Lingiari, Lowe, Lyne, Melbourne, Moncrieff, Newcastle, New England, Parkes, Sydney
Victorian Arabic Social Services	Batman, Calwell, Gellibrand, Jagajaga, Maribyrnong, McEwen, Melbourne, Melbourne Ports, Scullin, Wills