

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

**2005-2006 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
16 FEBRUARY 2006  
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation**

**Output Group 3.2: Labour market strategies**

**Output 3.2.2: Industry and Labour Supply Strategies**

**Question Number: W696-06**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked:

Working Breakfast –

- a) Under what programme are the business breakfasts funded?
- b) Are they part of the Welfare to Work Employer Demand Strategy?
- c) Can the department provide a schedule for the breakfasts and other such briefings, including dates and locations?
- d) Who will be invited?
- e) How is the invitation list compiled?
- f) Which organisations are consulted about invitations?
- g) Can people self-nominate?
- h) Who will attend from the department?
- i) Who will attend from the government, which parliamentarians?
- j) Will any private citizens or people from a non-government body be invited to speak?
- k) Will they be remunerated for speaking?
- l) If so, how much?
- m) Please detail what else will be involved in the Employer Demand Strategy, including the cost of each plank?

**Answer:**

- (a) The Workforce Tomorrow Industry and Employer breakfasts will be funded from the Welfare to Work communication strategy, announced in the Government's 2005/06 Budget.
- (b) The breakfasts support the Employer Demand and Workplace Flexibility Strategy.

- (c) A draft schedule for the breakfasts, including dates and locations where confirmed to date is at **Attachment A**.
- (d) Invitations for the breakfasts are extended to Chief Executives, Executive Officers, Proprietors, Presidents, and Managing Directors from a range of small, medium and large businesses, as well as representatives from Job Network members, Disability Open Employment services providers, industry associations, and local councils.
- (e) The department has purchased address lists for large, medium and small businesses across Australia. In addition, the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and State Chambers of Commerce and Industry assist in promoting the breakfasts to their members.
- (f) As mentioned above the department consults with the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, State Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and industry associations such as National Seniors, Recruitment Consulting Services Australia, and the National Employment Services Association, and the department's State and Regional Office network about address lists for each breakfast.
- (g) Information about the Workforce Tomorrow Industry and Employer breakfasts is published on the department's website. Industry and employers can self-nominate to attend the breakfasts.
- (h) A Senior Executive Service Officer and relevant State Manager or their representative attend each breakfast. In addition support staff from the department attend to assist event management of each breakfast.
- (i) Where possible an Australian Government Minister will attend each breakfast. Local Members of Parliament and Senators are also invited to each breakfast.
- (j) At each event an industry representative is invited to give a short presentation.
- (k) It is not anticipated that industry speakers will be remunerated for speaking, unless it is to cover any travel costs incurred to attend the breakfast.
- (l) See answer to (k) above.
- (m) The Employer Demand and Workplace Flexibility Strategy is funded at \$50m over four years and has three key components:
- Targeted and improved industry and workplace flexibility strategies (\$12.1m).
  - Training for employers to effectively manage an ageing workforce (\$2.0m).
  - Strategies to increase demand for workers with disabilities by increasing employers' willingness and capacity to employ people with disabilities, including \$25.4m for Workplace Modifications and \$4.8m for Wage Subsidy Scheme for people with a disability (\$35.6m)
  - Corporate Overheads (\$0.5m)

**Workforce Tomorrow**  
**Industry and Employer Breakfast**  
**DRAFT**

| <b>Location</b>                 | <b>Date</b>      |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Canberra                        | 14 February 2006 |
| Sydney CBD – Launch             | 20 February 2006 |
| Melbourne CDB                   | 22 February 2006 |
| Wagga Wagga (NSW)               | 23 February 2006 |
| Brisbane                        | 8 March 2006     |
| Parramatta                      | 8 March 2006     |
| Wollongong (NSW)                | 9 March 2006     |
| Launceston (Tas)                | 17 March 2006    |
| Melbourne Suburbs (Glenwaverly) | 21 March 2006    |
| Adelaide                        | 5 April 2006     |
| Hobart                          | 12 April 2006    |
| Dubbo (NSW)                     | 13 April 2006    |
| Gosford (NSW)                   | 20 April 2006    |
| Gisbourne                       | 26 April 2006    |
| Albury/Wodonga (NSW/Vic)        | 26 April 2006    |
| Geelong (Vic)                   | 27 April 2006    |
| Bendigo (Vic)                   | 2 May 2006       |
| Perth                           | 16 May 2006      |
| Belmont or Joondalup (WA)       | 17 May 2006      |
| Gold Coast (QLD)                | 18 May 2006      |
| Tamworth (NSW)                  | 19 May 2006      |
| Townsville (Qld)                | 6 June 2006      |
| Darwin                          | 27 June 2006     |
| Alice Springs (NT)              | 28 June 2006     |
| Griffith (NSW)                  | tba              |
| Lismore (NSW)                   | tba              |
| Newcastle (NSW)                 | 4 May 2006       |
| Mount Gambier (SA)              | tba              |
| Toowoomba (Qld)                 | tba              |
| Bunbury (WA)                    | tba              |
| Coffs Harbour                   | 24 August 2006   |
| Cairns (QLD)                    | 29 August 2006   |