

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0985\_10**

**Senator Cormann asked on 10/02/2010, Hansard page 98.**

**Question**

**JOBS FUND - PRIORITY AREA CAIRNS**

- i) Senator CORMANN—How can Cairns not be part of an employment priority area
- ii) Ms Paul—Because it was not one of those first seven. Senator CORMANN—Why?
- iii) Senator CORMAN - But was it in the top seven, or was it outside the top seven.

**Answer**

**i)**

Cairns was announced as a priority employment area in a joint media release by Minister Gillard, Minister Arbib and Parliamentary Secretary Clare on 8 July 2009.

**ii) and iii)**

Twenty priority employment areas were selected and rolled out in stages. The initial rollout ensured every State had at least one priority employment area announced.

Seven priority employment areas were announced by the Prime Minister on 5 April 2009. A further two priority employment areas were announced on 28 May 2009. The final 11 regions, including Cairns, were announced on 8 July in a joint media release by Minister Gillard, Minister Arbib and Parliamentary Secretary Clare.