

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding for vocational education and training.

DEST Question No. E435_06

Senator Wong asked on 2 June 2005, EWRE Hansard page 36.

Question:

What sort of information base in terms of the skills needs of the targeted groups was before the task force when formulating the [Welfare to Work] policy – I am trying to work out if anyone did an analysis of the demands and needs of people with a disability and parents on these benefits?

Answer:

Welfare to Work

The Department of Education, Science and Training had an officer seconded to the Welfare to Work Taskforce in the lead up period to the Budget announcements.

She was aware of the research on the demands and needs of people with a disability in such works as *Bridging Pathways: A National Strategy for increasing opportunities for people with a disability in vocational education and training* and *Bridging Pathways: Revised Blueprint*, both produced by the Australian Disability Advisory Training Council.

The lead agency for the Welfare to Work reforms is the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations. It may be more appropriate to address questions concerning the policy parameters for assessing the demands and needs of people with a disability and parents on disability benefits to the lead agency.