

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
29TH AND 30TH MAY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.2: Labour market strategies

**Output 3.2.3: CDEP management (Community Development Employment
Projects)**

Question Number: W049-07

Question:

Senator Crossin asked in writing:

It is my understanding Work for the Dole programs are not set Key Performance Indicators similar to those of the CDEP program and are not measured on their employment outcomes. CDEP is continually referred to as “black work for the dole” why are the expectations of this program far greater than that of mainstream Work for the Dole?

Answer:

The Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) programme provides unemployed Indigenous people with activities designed to meet community needs, develop participants’ skills and improve their employability in order to assist them to move into employment outside CDEP. These activities can also lead to the development of business enterprises.

Work for the Dole provides work experience for unemployed people. Participants may undertake Work for the Dole to meet their mutual obligation requirement or as a voluntary activity. The objectives of Work for the Dole are to develop work habits for participants and encourage communities to take a role in supporting the participants. Activities are designed to enhance the employability skills of participants and provide benefits to the community. While participating in Work for the Dole, participants are required to continue job searching and to accept any reasonable job offer identified by their Job Network member.