

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
29<sup>TH</sup> AND 30<sup>TH</sup> 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**

**Question Number: W050-07**

**Question:**

Senator Crossin asked in writing:

*The CDEP scheme was established as a flexible program to encourage community development, provide a minimum level of income support and to enhance prospects of mainstream employment where labour markets exist. In its reform of the CDEP scheme in 2005, DEWR committed to maintain this flexibility. Is this proving to be the case?*

**Answer:**

Flexibility in CDEP has been maintained by ensuring that:

- activities meet the needs of the local labour market and skill levels of participants, as well as community needs.
- KPIs are negotiated individually with each organisation, taking account of local circumstances. Where good opportunities exist, DEWR expects CDEP organisations to take advantage of these circumstances.

The reforms made to the CDEP programme have maintained this flexibility while improving outcomes for participants.