

## EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome**            7

#### **DEEWR Question No. EW289\_09**

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

#### **Question**

- i.) Is it possible that someone will be able to indefinitely avoid Work for the Dole?
- ii.) What will be the difference between Work for the Dole and Green Corps projects under the new Employment Services Contract?
- iii.) What is the extent of the savings predicted by the removal of the Green Corps Allowance?
- iv.) Post 1 July 2009 will people still be able to volunteer for Green Corps if they are not linked to an Employment Services provider?

#### **Answer**

- i.) As is the case now under Job Network not all job seekers will participate in Work for the Dole under the new employment services system.
- ii.) Green Corps activities will, under the new employment services system, continue to have as their objectives, the conservation, restoration and preservation of Australia's natural environment and cultural heritage. Green Corps activities will be developed within the context of the Federal Government's environmental goals and priorities. Work for the Dole activities are not limited to environmental and cultural heritage priorities.
- iii.) The savings cannot be identified against any specific item. Funding has been re-aligned across various parts of the employment services system and various programs will now be delivered in an integrated way to better assist job seekers and employers.
- iv.) Green Corps is currently only available to young people aged between 17 and 20 yrs. Young people not in receipt of income support will still be able to volunteer for employment services and may participate in Green Corps activities as part of their work experience at any time.