SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10

Outcome 4

DEEWR Question No. EW0088 10

Senator Hanson-Young provided in writing.

Question

Number of young people affected who will no longer receive Youth Allowance.

How many young people under age 21 will no longer receive Youth Allowance because of these proposed changes? (that is, how many young people under 21 do not have a year 12 education and are not in full time study?)

Answer

No assumption about young people losing entitlement to Youth Allowance has been made.

A key objective of the changes to Youth Allowance (Other) requirements is to engage more young people in full-time study until they attain Year 12 or an equivalent qualification. This is expected to result in more young people studying full-time and receiving Youth Allowance (Student) instead of Youth Allowance (Other).

In addition, arrangements will be flexible for early school leavers receiving Youth Allowance (Other) who may find it difficult to engage in study or training under the new requirements. For example, young people who have complex needs or multiple barriers, such as homelessness or substance abuse, may be able to meet their participation requirements through participation in Stream 4 employment services, Disability Employment Services or a Youth Transitions program.