

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

**Outcome/Agency**        **4**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0207\_10**

Senator Cash asked on 17 June 2009, EEWHR Hansard page 47.

**Question**

*Additional Jobs Seekers using Job Services Australia.*

Senator CASH—Given that the budget now forecasts Job Services Australia to cost around \$4.9 billion over the three-year term of the contract, how many additional job seekers are expected to use Job Services Australia over the course of the contract?

Ms Paul—I think Mr Carters went to that earlier, Senator, which is that there is a whole bunch of different components to that. Ultimately, we take some estimates from Treasury. I do not know what they are. But the parameters are actually set by Treasury, not by us.

Senator CASH—Does Mr Carters want to contribute in relation to that question at all?

Mr Carters—We will have to take it on notice, Senator. Because they are Treasury parameters, there may be some issues with what is provided.

Senator CASH—In terms of your department, though, would you not have a general idea as to how many additional people are going to be using your department's services?

Ms Paul—Not precisely because, of course, it changes. It is changing significantly and quite rapidly at the moment. But we will take on notice—

**Answer**

The forecast demand on Job Services Australia services due to changes in unemployment is based on Treasury forecasts. The 2008-09 Commonwealth Budget forecasts that unemployment is expected to rise to 8.25 per cent for the 2009-10 financial year and 8.5 per cent in 2010-11.

Modelling was also provided as part of the consultation process for Job Services Australia. It is available at:

<http://www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Publications/Purchasing/ExposureDraft/ExposureDraftandConsultationSessions.htm#modelling>.