SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING 2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3:	Increased workforce participation
Output Group 3.1:	Working age policy
Output 3.1.1:	Working age policy legislation

Question Number: W427-06

Question:

Senator Wong asked at *Hansard* page 5:- Can the Department please explain how in the 2006-07 year the government is modelling in excess of double the number of people with a disability in subsequent years moving from welfare to work? Why is it going to be two and a bit times as good as any other year?

Answer:

As stated at the Senate Inquiry into the Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (Hansard, pp. 4-5, Monday, 21 November 2005), it is estimated that approximately 20,000 to 23,000 people in the Disability Support Pension (DSP) transition group (people who are granted DSP between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006) will move to Newstart or other income support payments at review some time after 1 July 2006.

The larger number of people with disability expected to receive Newstart in one financial year reflects this normal periodic review process. In general, these reviews will occur around two years after payment is granted. However, the timing of reviews depends on the circumstances of individuals, so reviews can be variable.