SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING 2ND NOVEMBER 2006 EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group: 3.1 Working age policy

Output: 3.1.1 Working age policy and legislation

Question Number: W1021-07

Question:

Senator Siewert asked in writing:

If the minimum wage does not keep pace with the indexation of NSA then the number of full time employees eligible for NSA will rise won't it? What are the next categories that this would apply to?

Answer:

If the minimum wage does not keep pace with the indexation of NSA then the number of full time employees eligible for NSA will be dependent on government policy at that time.

Under current policies, the category of job seeker whose cut-out point for NSA is closest to the minimum wage is a Single NSA recipient with no children receiving Rent Assistance. The cut-out point is \$56.88 per fortnight below the minimum wage.