

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0612_11

Senator Abetz asked on 20/10/2010, Hansard page 119.

Question

SUCCESS RATE OF RELOCATION SCHEME

Senator ABETZ—What is the success rate—if I can call it that—of the previous scheme? Is understood it, about three quarters stuck with a job for 12 months? Ms Paul—I cannot recall. I will have to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ—It was relatively high, wasn't it—the previous scheme? Ms Paul—I will have to take that on notice. I do not have it here. Senator ABETZ—If you could. It depends on how you determine success, but, if one were to say that a person had remained in the job for 12 months, that would be— Ms Paul—That is a success. Senator ABETZ—Yes—a success. We can agree on that. So, roughly—you can take this on notice—if 75 per cent of remained in a— Senator Chris Evans—Senator, I would not argue, but that sounds a bit high, from my recollection. I could well be proved wrong, too. It just seems that that would be a pretty successful scheme if you had 75 per cent staying for 12 months. Senator ABETZ—Tell us then: what benchmark would you have for this new scheme so that it would be described as successful? Ms Paul—To the extent that the previous scheme had good, long-term outcomes like that, there were still some elements of it which we thought needed to be redesigned. I would need to take that on notice and get that out for you.

Answer

Under the two pilots, 2006-07 and 2007-08, the following were achieved:

- A total of 87 of the 130 employment places available for relocation were taken up (33 in the first pilot and 54 in the second pilot).
- 67 of the 87 job seekers (77 per cent) remained in Western Australia 12 months after relocation.
- Specifically under the first pilot which involved 33 job seekers, 81% (21 job seekers) were off benefits six months after taking up the relocation position.

However the evaluation found that a key factor reducing the cost effectiveness of the pilot was that many of the participants, who were only required to have been unemployed for four months, would have found employment without moving.

A fully worked up evaluation strategy is being developed as part of the detailed plan for the pilot that is to commence on 1 January 2011. It is anticipated the evaluation strategy will include a number of performance indicators such as the number of outcomes achieved, cost per outcome and the sustainability of these outcomes.