

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Department of Human Services

Additional Estimates 2007-08 – February 2008



Question: HS7

Outcome: All, **Output:** All

Topic: Program Underspends within the Portfolio

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SENATOR COONAN asked on 19/02/2008:

What programs within each of the areas of the portfolio are currently underspent and can you give me the reason for any underspends?

Answer:

The Northern Territory Emergency Response component of the Job Capacity Assessment (JCA) and Job Capacity Account Programs has a combined underspend of approximately \$3.4 million as at 29 February 2008.

This is attributed to lower than anticipated JCA referrals arising from the removal of remote area exemptions in the Northern Territory, the wet season curtailing JCA activities and the Government's decision to impose a moratorium on moving people out of the Community Development Employment Program.

It is expected that there will be a total underspend of approximately \$5.3 million for the 2007-08 financial year.