



Australian Government
Productivity Commission

Our reference: BS:KC

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31 May 2016

Mr Gaius Maxwell

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Dear Mr Maxwell

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I write in reply to your email request, received 30 May 2016, under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* seeking:

'any and all data you may have pertaining to the effectiveness of the work-for-the-dole program.

Specifically, data showing whether or not it reduces the unemployment rate, and more specifically, a breakdown of those actually gaining employment vs. those that are simply put on the work-for-the-dole program.

As I understand it, when a stream participant is placed in a WftD program their statistic is removed from unemployment, I would like to know if job seekers are actually gaining meaningful, true employment from work-for-the-dole, or if they are simply being placed in work-for-the-dole to artificially reduce unemployment statistics'.

The Productivity Commission does not have in its possession any documents which fall within the scope of your request.

The Department of Employment <https://www.employment.gov.au> has policy responsibility for the Australian Government's Work for the Dole Programme.

Yours sincerely

Brian Scammell

Assistant Commissioner-Corporate Services

FOI Decision maker (in accordance with s23(1) of the Act)