

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1494 [NW1773E]

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Mr N J J van R Koornhof (Cope) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether he has undertaken pilot studies on the implementation of the youth wage subsidy; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many and (b) when does he intend to release the findings?

NW1773E

REPLY:

The National Treasury has not undertaken pilot studies of the youth employment incentive proposed in the discussion paper “*Confronting youth unemployment: policy options for South Africa*” that was released at Budget 2011.

Given the scale of youth unemployment in South Africa, however, National Treasury, working with the Department of Labour and other government departments, commissioned the University of the Witwatersrand to investigate the dynamics of the youth labour market in South Africa. The study has been investigating a range of factors influencing the youth labour market and youth unemployment, including the impact of employment services provided by the labour centres (run by the Department of Labour), job search behaviour, firm recruiting behaviour, and the school-to-work transition.