

FOR PRESS

FINANCE FOR STATES FOR EMPLOYMENT-GIVING ACTIVITIES  
COMMONWEALTH PROPOSALS FOR ALLOCATION

Emphasising that the first aim of the Commonwealth proposals for giving State Governments and their related authorities excess new additional money for expenditure during the remainder of 1961/62 was to improve the employment situation, especially in areas where it was weakest, the Prime Minister quoted the following figures as giving the approximate number of persons registered as applicants for employment in the several States:

N.S.W.	47,000
VICTORIA	30,800
Q'LD.	30,400
S.A.	10,200
W.A.	7,500
TASMANIA	5,300
TOTAL	<u>131,500</u>

Stated as approximate percentages of the work force in each State, these represented 2.9% of the work force in New South Wales; 2.5% in Victoria; 5% in Queensland; 2.5% in South Australia; 2.6% in Western Australia and 4% in Tasmania.

The Commonwealth proposed that the additional £5m. it was offering to advance to the States for housing construction in 1961/62 should be distributed as follows:

	<u>£ million</u>
New South Wales	1.61
Victoria	1.28
Queensland	0.60
South Australia	0.69
Western Australia	0.47
Tasmania	0.35

Its proposal for distributing an increase of £10m. in the borrowing programmes for semi-governmental and local authorities in 1961/62 was:

	<u>£ million</u>
New South Wales	3.01
Victoria	3.66
Queensland	2.06
South Australia	0.49
Western Australia	0.44
Tasmania	0.34
	<u>10.00</u>

As to the special non-repayable grant of £10m. for expenditure on employment-giving activities in this financial year, the Commonwealth proposed that a special allocation of £2.5m. should be made to Queensland and a special allocation of £.5m. to Tasmania. The remaining £7m. would be distributed between all States on the same basis as the Works and Housing Programmes for 1961/62. The resulting figures would be:

	<u>£ million</u>
New South Wales	2.24
Victoria	1.80
Queensland	3.34
South Australia	0.97
Western Australia	0.66
Tasmania	0.99
	<u>10.00</u>