

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. CA0001_14

Senator Payne provided in writing.

RJCP - EOI process

Question

How many meetings did the Minister or the Minister's advisers have with organisations that had submitted EOIs, in the lead up to the EOI deadline? Can the department provide a list of these organisations?

Why has it taken so long to decide on the successful providers in the Central Cape and Western Cape regions of Queensland?

Why has an announcement on the contract for the Kowanyama and Pormpuraaw region and the Northern Peninsula region on the Cape been possible, but those for the Central Cape and Western Cape have not?

Answer

The Minister meets routinely with individuals, community groups and organisations with an interest in Indigenous matters as part of her role as Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development.

Following the decision in the 2013–14 Budget to provide \$24.5 million to extend Cape York Welfare Reform (CYWR), the Australian Government decided to withdraw the CYWR communities of Aurukun and Coen from the Western Cape and Central Cape RJCP regions respectively, and to create a separate Aurukun - Coen region.

Until the arrangements for the creation of the Aurukun - Coen region had been finalised, it was not possible to decide the providers for the Western Cape and Central Cape regions.

Providers for the Remote Jobs and Communities Program were announced over the period 24 April to 24 June 2013.