

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000811**

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 10

***Tender evaluations***

**Question**

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Do you also have a panel of external experts that you draw into those processes?

Dr Bruniges: I would have to take that on notice, but my understanding is that sometimes indeed they would use staff from other agencies with particular expertise, but I would have to take on notice the question about whether there is a set panel that they use of external expertise beyond the APS.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: The other question is: do you have a panel of external consultants that are in a sense an approved panel of consultants that you would go to on a case-by-case basis?

Dr Bruniges: Not that I am aware of, but I am happy to take that on notice and double-check.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: I know in the past that is a process that has applied in Employment. I am curious whether a similar process occurs in Education and, if so, who is on that panel.

Dr Bruniges: I am happy to take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Department of Education and Training does not have a panel of external experts for tender evaluations.

The department uses a range of panel arrangements to purchase consultancy services as required. Information about available panels (standing offer notices) and the suppliers listed on each panel is available on the AusTender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au).