

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 3 - Higher Education

DEEWR Question No.EW0823_10

Senator Cash provided in writing.

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW 570_10 (h)

Question

AUDITS OF THE PRODUCTIVITY PLACES PROGRAM

I refer to the answer to QON EW 570_10 (h) in which the Department advised that it had called in an External Auditor for one provider. Please provide an update as to the status of this audit.

Answer

The Department contracted Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu to conduct a 100% on-site audit of Leer's participant records.

This audit was to commence on 12 October 2009. However, on that day, the Department was advised that Leer had entered into liquidation. Consequently, no external audit has taken place.

The Department has since reviewed 296 PPP participant files that were passed to the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority by Leer's liquidator. We are also asking the formerowner of Leer (who was also the Managing Director) to provide the remaining 266 PPP files.