

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

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

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0866\_10**

**Senator Cash provided in writing.**

*Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW 570\_10*

**Question**

**LEER INSTITUTE**

At the October Estimates hearing the issues surrounding the Leer Institute and the fact that it had had 5 Departmental audits, and was scheduled to be audited by an external auditor were raised. Please provide an update of the status of Leer Institute and the results of the external audit. When did the external audit take place? Who was the external auditor?

**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 former owner and Managing Director of Leer to provide the remaining 266 PPP files.