

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW1135_12

Senator Waters asked on 15 February 2012 , Hansard page 105

Question

FIFO Coordinators

"Senator WATERS: Can you tell me a little more about the FIFO coordinators?
Ms Paul: We can talk particularly about the Cairns one. Senator WATERS: Is that the only one on foot at the moment? Ms Paul: The Cairns one exists, and there is a commitment for four more. I am not sure whether they have been established yet. The reason you are having to rely on me is that the officers who are experts on this have been moved to the other department. That is why they are not with me. Senator WATERS: Do you know where the other four will be based? Ms Paul: I cannot recall. I will get it for you on notice. Senator WATERS: And as much detail as you have on their terms of reference, their scope and purpose, and how well resourced they are to do that work in liaison with the industry. "

Answer

The Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) has provided the following response.

Cairns Coordinator

SkillsDMC in partnership with Advance Cairns are working with resources and construction companies as well as employment and training organisations to pilot the role of a Fly-in Fly-out (FIFO) Coordinator in Cairns. The Australian Government is providing \$561,000 to support this project.

A Coordinator was appointed by SkillsDMC in November 2011 until mid 2013. The Coordinator will work to develop links between resources projects in remote locations and suitable job seekers in the Cairns region, to capitalise on FIFO job opportunities in Australia's growing resources and related construction industries.

Other Coordinators

The department is undertaking consultations with industry bodies, unions, and state and territory government representatives to identify delivery models and priority locations for four additional FIFO Coordinators. Advice will be provided to the Government and the decisions will be announced in due course.

It is anticipated that all the FIFO Coordinators will work together and share lessons and better practice with one another, in order to better link suitable job seekers from across Australia to new jobs on mining, construction and infrastructure projects in remote areas.