

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency 4

DEEWR Question No. **EW528_10**

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

What lessons were learned when reviewing the tender process for employment services?
How are these lessons being applied during the tender process for disability employment services?

What options have been considered for better ways to procure such services?

Answer

As every procurement process is different, the most appropriate method of assessment is used to ensure value for money to the Commonwealth. All tender processes were and are undertaken under and in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines as published from time to time by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

Consistent with its commitment to consult with the industry on reforms to the employment service market, the Government has undertaken to continue this consultation on future procurement related activities such as the single mid point contract reallocation. The Government is forming a reference group of employment service Providers, the Australian Services Union and organisations representing job seekers, in order to receive feedback and to provide the Government with advice about the conduct of future purchasing and related processes in the interest of continuous improvement.