

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0626_11

Senator Mason asked on 21/10/2010, Hansard page 12.

Question

INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM CONTRACT (CN326183)

Senator MASON—Mr McDonald, I draw your attention to CN326183 - community and social services, Joblink Plus.

Mr McDonald—Mr Griew will respond.

Mr Griew—This is an Indigenous Employment Program contract let by the regional manager of the Orange regional office. Joblink Plus is an Indigenous Employment Program panel member. It submitted an application, which is one of the normal ways which IEP contracts are let, for a project that involved placing participants in the childcare industry and taking them through from having no formal qualifications or experience within industry to be trained at the Certificate III level. The contract maximum funding amount is \$33 000 and the decision was made earlier this year. The project is still being developed.

Senator MASON—What is the success of the program? Is there any evaluation thus far?

Mr Griew—Not at this stage, no. It is too early for that.

Senator MASON—Will there be?

Mr Griew—It would be normal for there to be evaluations of projects like this, but I would have to take on notice any particular arrangements in relation to this project.

Senator MASON—Would you let the committee know what evaluation—

Mr Griew—Is planned or when it is done?

Senator MASON—The arrangements that are anticipated.

Mr Griew—Okay, sure.

Answer

All Indigenous Employment Program project contracts include performance assessment criteria. These criteria are negotiated with the organisation or Panel Member prior to execution of the contract.

The Joblink Plus contract requires that the provider place five participants into employment in the childcare industry. The contract commenced on 14 April 2010 and is due to cease on 31 November 2011.

For this particular contract, performance will be measured on:

- final placements filled as a percentage of contracted places;
- a Contract Manager rating of the quality of the outcomes of the agreed job seeker promotion/ development. This is on a scale of one to five, with one being poor and five high;
- the percentage of employment commencements that achieve the intended 13 week and 26 week employment outcomes;
- the number of Indigenous job seekers assisted by the activity; and
- the number of employment placements/outcomes.