

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0138_14

Senator Siewert asked on 4 June 2013, Hansard page 47

Question

Specialist services for DES

Ms Parker: There is another component to choosing specialists. There are those who say they can run a service and they know there are job seekers and they can look after them if they are Indigenous. We do our own analysis as well. There are two components. When we assess whether we need a specialist service in the area, it is about those two things: firstly, is there anyone who wants to deliver it, and thinks they should and can, and has got data to show that those job seekers exist; and, secondly, there is our own analysis. And that is done at the local level through our contract managers and our labour market analysis. It is not just a matter of if you put your hand up and you can deliver; we need the evidence to show that it is actually needed. So all of those things are taken into account.

Senator SIEWERT: In this instance, you do not say you need one here and you need one there?

Ms Parker: Partly, yes, we do. Our contract managers in the state offices are very good at this. If there are a lot of refugees, for example, that would be a good case for showing it would be good to have a specialist refugee service—not necessarily, but it is a fact that we would consider.

Senator SIEWERT: Where are they located in the four states that you mentioned?

Ms Buffinton: I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

Disability Employment Service (DES) providers that specialise in services for Indigenous job seekers with disability maintain sites across four states. These are New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

Specialist Indigenous providers of DES-Disability Management Services are contracted in New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia at the following locations:

Program	State	Provider Name	Site Locality
DES - Disability Management Service	NSW	Ability Options Limited	Camden
			Campbelltown
			Mount Druitt
			Seven Hills
	QLD	NQ Employment	Aitkenvale
			Ayr
			Charters Towers
			Ingham
	WA	Peedac	Armadale
			Cannington
			Midland
			Mirrabooka

Specialist Indigenous providers of DES-Employment Support Service (DES-ESS) are contracted in New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia at the following locations:

Program	State	Provider Name	Site Locality
DES - Employment Support Service	NSW	Ability Options Limited	Mount Druitt
			Seven Hills
	QLD	NQ Employment	Aitkenvale
			Ayr
			Ingham
	SA	Heta Incorporated	Adelaide
			Golden Grove
			Salisbury
			Smithfield Plains

As a result of the DES-ESS tender, the number of DES-ESS sites has increased by 50 per cent. The number of DES-ESS sites for specialist Indigenous providers has increased by over 50 per cent.