Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-001027

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

Youth Jobs PaTH - contracts for training providers

- When will contract tendering for the training element start?
- What will the Department ask for in those tenders?
- What will be measured to ascertain success of training providers?
- · When will that be tested?
- How much will the Department spend on training contracts?
- How will this impact the roll out of the program in areas where the largest employment service providers are also some of the largest training providers?
- Has the Department considered providing funding covering day care, transport etc to support participants of a compulsory training program?

Answer

- When will contract tendering for the training element start?
 - A Request for Proposal for Youth Jobs PaTH Employability Skills Training Panel 2017-2020 (RFP) was published 25 October 2016 and will close on 29 November 2016.
- What will the Department ask for in those tenders?
 - The Department is asking for Registered Training Organisations to submit applications in accordance with the requirements set out in the RFP.
- What will be measured to ascertain success of training providers?
 - Three Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be applied when assessing a provider's performance. These KPIs cover the concepts of effectiveness, engagement/efficiency, and satisfaction and quality; these KPIs are outlined in Section 2.5.4 of the RFP.
- When will that be tested?
 - The performance of individual providers will be regularly assessed by the Department.
- How much will the Department spend on training contracts?
 - The Request for Proposal for the Employability Skills Training Panel is subject to price competition. Expenditure will be monitored to ensure expenditure remains within the allocated funding envelope.
- How will this impact the roll out of the program in areas where the largest employment service providers are also some of the largest training providers?
 - jobactive providers and their related entities will be eligible to be appointed to the EST Panel, if they are a Registered Training Organisation, but will not be able to refer job seekers from their own caseload to any Employability Skills Training they deliver or their related entity delivers. This will be taken into account during the panel allocation process.

• Has the Department considered providing funding – covering day care, transport etc – to support participants of a compulsory training program?

All jobactive providers have access to the Employment Fund, a flexible pool of funding that providers can use to help eligible job seekers get and keep a job. This includes assistance with childcare, post placement support and job seeker transport to attend job search related activities, training or employment.