

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010–2011**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0931_11

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

RESEARCH CONSULTANCIES FROM THE DEEWR 09–10 ANNUAL REPORT

Please provide details of the following consultancies and a copy of any reports submitted, referred to in the 09–10 Annual report:

- Social Policy – ANU (Income Support Substitution)
- Job Strategies – The Social Research Centre (Research for the SEAM evaluation)
- Job Strategies – Curtin University of Technology (Provision of research programs)
- Job Strategies – The Social Research Centre (Provision of research programs)

The details required are:

a) have any reports been provided to the department, if so when and can you please provide copies of those reports;

b) if not, please list the research questions, timelines, and academics conducting the work; or please list the research questions or evaluation questions, timelines and any survey instrument(s) developed for this project.

Answer

Social Policy – ANU (Income Support Substitution)

Professor Robert Gregory of the ANU was commissioned in December 2009 to undertake research on income support substitution to inform the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) on income support dynamics and the changing labour market. This research is continuing and a final report is due to be provided to the department by 30 June 2011.

Job Strategies – The Social Research Centre (Research for the SEAM evaluation)

DEEWR commissioned the Social Research Centre (SRC) to undertake a research project to collect data to support the comprehensive evaluation that is currently being undertaken by the department to examine the effectiveness of SEAM. As part of this, SRC provided the department with a methodology report in July 2010. A copy of the methodology report is attached. SRC also provided the department with a qualitative research report, but as this report may identify research participants it cannot be released.

Job Strategies – Curtin University of Technology (Provision of research programs -

Net Impact Analyses for Job Services Australia)

Curtin University of Technology provided *the Net Impact Analyses for Job Services Australia* report to the department on 9 June 2010. A copy of this report is attached. *Job Strategies – The Social Research Centre (Provision of research programs - Jobs and Training Compact)*

DEEWR commissioned SRC to undertake a research program to provide data on the contribution of the *Securing Australian Apprenticeships and Apprentice Kickstart initiatives* for input into the evaluation of the *Jobs and Training Compact*.

The qualitative and quantitative research will inform the department on the operation of these initiatives. The research is taking place in two stages—in April–August 2010 and March–April 2011. Each stage includes surveys of apprentices and employers and in-depth interviews with employers.

The final report is due to the department by 30 June 2011.

The survey instruments developed for this SRC research are study questionnaires and discussion guides for apprentices, employers and group training organisations.

No academics are involved in this research.