

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0367_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Education and employment departments

1. What goods/services are procured/obtained/provided by the Corporate and state office network to the department; 2. What goods/services procured/obtained/provided are shared between the Education and Employment departments? 3. Provide in detail the costs of these shared goods/services and the goods/services provided by the corporate and state office network; how are the costs split; how long will this arrangement last?; what was the budget for these goods and services since September 18 2013 and what is the budget for these goods/services for the department after the shared and corporate and state office network is dissolved.

Answer

Aside from services shared with the Department of Employment (see question on notice ED0326_14), the Department of Education provides following corporate services itself:

- finance and strategy (budgets, financial management, risk management implementation, planning and performance)
- parliamentary and deregulation (parliamentary and ministerial liaison, deregulation coordination)
- human resources, capability and communication (people policy, capability and strategy, strategic and internal communication, media and events)
- Internal audit (IT, financial and performance audit)
- legal and compliance (freedom of information, litigation, legal policy)

The state network assists the department in delivering Government programmes and services, including:

- managing local provider contracts (e.g. Community Support Program, Inclusion and Professional Support Program)
- managing local provider compliance with A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999 and other relevant legislation
- facilitating stakeholder communication and consultation to seek input or advice on government policy and programmes
- engaging with communities and coordinating information and responses during natural disasters such as floods and fires.

Details of the services shared between the Department of Education and the Department of Employment are in the response to ED0326_14.

The budgets that existed in the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) for each work unit in the corporate areas, both in the shared services centre or in the Department of Education, and the state network, has followed the work unit. The arrangements are intended to be ongoing.