

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency 4

DEEWR Question No. **EW530_10**

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

Since the cessation of previous contracts for providers who were unsuccessful tenderers for employment services, has any study been carried out on the impacts of the loss of supplementary unfunded services by longstanding providers – eg ex-prisoner support to address barriers to getting and keeping a job?

Answer

The Productivity Commission is currently examining the contribution of the not-for-profit sector to Australian Society. A draft report was released on 14 October 2009. Submission to the Productivity Commission closed on 24 November 2009. It is expected that the final report will be completed by the end of 2009.

The department has not undertaken any specific investigations into any impacts of results of the tender process on the supplementary services provided by unsuccessful tenderers however it did, in the period immediately following the tender announcement, provide transitional support through the \$3.5m Agency Adjustment Fund.

The Agency Adjustment Fund provided support to organisations that were affected by the tender outcomes to assist them to re-orient and develop new opportunities and help providers operate in the space they are best suited based on their skills set. This was particularly relevant for those organisations who may have relied on employment services to support the ongoing provision of non employment related services.