

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

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

Outcome/Agency 4

DEEWR Question No. **EW529_10**

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

When reviewing the tender process for employment services, what was learned about what it costs a potential or existing provider to tender?

Answer

The Post Implementation Review of the Job Services Australia procurement process was an examination of the department's procurement process and as such did not examine the costs to tenderers to undertake the process.

The department appreciates that there is a cost to organisations in participating in a tender and takes steps in developing Requests for Tender and selection criterion to reduce this impact.

However, the cost of the tendering must be balanced with the importance of having an open and competitive process which allows all organisations to participate and be judged equally.