

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

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

#### **The administration and purchasing of Disability Employment Services in Australia**

#### **Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

#### **DEEWR Question No. 2**

**Senator Siewert asked on 27/10/2011, Hansard page 54 and 55**

#### **Question**

In terms of the group that falls into clearly breaching the deed have you had to take any action for any of the DES providers along these lines. Could you tell us the numbers that you have taken to prosecution but also where you have recovered? Presumably, by the sounds of it, you have also done some recoveries without taking to prosecution?

#### **Answer**

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations provides the following answer.

DEEWR has not taken any DES Provider to prosecution for breaches under the current DES contract.

Of the 1.05 million claims made under the DES contract (from 1 March 2010):

- around 4000 have been withdrawn prior to payment,
- around 1500 have been rejected by DEEWR Account Managers,
- in addition, just under 2000 have been offset (against other claims) or, in a small number of cases, recovered directly. Some of these recoveries are as a result of quality assurance programs both at the local Contract Manager level and by the DES program area.

An examination of a sample of these claims has identified that the majority of offsets / recoveries and almost all of the withdrawn claims, are as a result of provider self identification of invalid claims.