

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES – 21 OCTOBER 2010 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Jobs and Skills Expos

Question reference number: HS 22

Senator: Colbeck

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 December 2010

Number of pages: 3

Question:

1. Why was a Jobs and Skills Expo held in Devonport on July 30, 2010?
2. When was this date set for the expo?
3. What correspondence was there between the Department and Sid Sidebottom's office regarding this event? When? From which officer?
4. What was the cost of promoting the event?
5. Where was it promoted?
6. Was a consultant/contractor used to run this event in any way? What was their cost?
7. What was the total cost of holding the event?
8. Did any Centrelink or other Departmental officers travel from Hobart or other capital cities to attend the event? If so, what was the cost of their travel and accommodation?
9. How many exhibitors participated? Can you please provide a list. Is this number of participants above or below the average number that attend these Expos held in other parts of Australia?
10. A joint media statement (by Treasurer Wayne Swan, Minister Jason Clare, Sid Sidebottom and Dick Adams) on the day of the Devonport Jobs and Skills Expo claimed 150 jobs and apprenticeships were on offer at this event. How was this figure determined and precisely how many of these jobs were filled on the day?
11. What advice, of a media, policy or other type, did the Department provide to any of these Ministers/MPs about this event? When?
12. How many Jobs and Skills Expo events have been conducted in Tasmania since 1 January 2008? In what locations and on what dates did these events occur? What were their total costs?
13. What plans are in place for further Jobs and Skills Expo events to be held in Tasmania? What locations and dates are confirmed?

Answer:

1. [DEEWR to respond to this Question]
2. July 2010.
3. None.
4. \$12,800.
5. The Expo was promoted in regional newspapers and on radio. Print media promotion for the North West Tasmanian Jobs and Skills Expo was organised with the Burnie Advocate and the Launceston Examiner. Radio promotion was organised with SEA FM / 7AD. Additional promotion of the Expo was gained through media releases, interviews and media opportunities with local newspapers, radio and television.
6. No.
7. \$163,000.
8. Yes. \$12,147.
9. There were a total of 42 exhibitor stalls on the day at the Expo:

Business and Employment
Centrelink - Centrelink enquiries (form processing)
Centrelink - Financial Information Service
Centrelink - Self-service
Centrelink - Working for Centrelink
Choose
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation
Cradle Mountain Lodge
CRS Australia
DEEWR - Australian Job Search
DEEWR - Mature Age Career Advice
DEEWR - State office
Defence Force Recruiting x 2 stalls
Devonport Linc
Federal Group West Coast (Pure Tasmania)
Forest Industry Employment & Training Services
Harvest Moon
JobFind
Karingal Community
Learning Partners
MAX Employment
Mersey Leven Child Care Service
Mission Australia
Motors Group
Onecare
Polytechnic - Community & Children's Service
Randstad
Rural Skills Australia
Salvation Army Employment Plus
SERS Sheetmetal Works
Sitel

Skilled Group Limited
Skills Institute
Tasmanian Alkaloids
Tasmanian Polytechnic - Primary Industries
Tastec Group Training
University of Tasmania (2 stalls)
Volunteering Tasmania
Wise Employment
Work & Training Ltd

The number of exhibitors who participated in Devonport was below the average number attended in other parts of Australia.

10. 325 jobs were on offer, including apprenticeships – these were advised by the exhibitors. At the end of the day, exhibitors advised that they expected to fill 182 positions.
11. Advice about the number of jobs to be available at the event was provided on the day prior to the event to the then Parliamentary Secretary, the Hon Jason Clare MP.
12. There have been two Expos held in Tasmania since 1 January 2008. They are:
 - Launceston Keep Australia Working Centrelink Jobs Expo, held on 14 October 2009, at a cost of approximately \$163,000; and
 - North West Tasmania Jobs and Skills Expo, held in Devonport on 30 July 2010, at a cost of approximately \$163,000.
13. *[DEEWR to respond to this Question.]*