

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

#### **Outcome 1 - Employment**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-003968**

**Senator Marshall provided in writing.**

#### **Question**

##### **Work for the Dole - NEATO**

Did the results of Department monitoring of NEATO's workplace health and safety practices within the Work for the Dole contract improve after they were asked to make changes to their practice, before the incident?

How has NEATO's performance been measured and rated after the incident?

#### **Answer**

The Department monitors compliance with work health and safety requirements through a range of ongoing contract management and program assurance activities.

Between October and December 2015 NEATO was one of a number of providers included in the Department's Rolling Random Sample reviews of Work for the Dole risk assessments (Place). Neato responded to the findings of these audits detailing the action that they had taken including a review of their risk assessment templates and updating as required the individual risk assessments for the activities that had been part of the audit.

NEATO was also included in the on-site work health and safety audits of Work for the Dole activities conducted by Ernst & Young between January and May 2016. NEATO was informed at the time and sent the results of onsite audits. NEATO addressed the matters raised.

In a desktop review of a sample of risk assessments (job seeker) completed in July to September 2016, all but one of the NEATO risk assessments reviewed satisfied requirements. The risk assessment which partially met requirements had insufficient detail in one aspect which did not pose any risk to job seeker safety. NEATO had already updated its risk assessment template before the review was completed so this inaccuracy should not recur.