

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 1 - Employment**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0748\_15**

**Senator Collins provided in writing.**

*Refers to previous Department of Employment Question No EM0022\_14*

**Question**

**Job Services Australia contracts**

"Can you please outline the current state of contracts for Job Services Australia contracts? In answer to QoN EM0022\_14 the response said that further consultations would take place on the new contract process – can you please advise: - What consultations took place? - Where were these consultations held? - Did the Minister or Assistant Minister attend these consultations? - How many providers attended these consultations? Has the Department provided advice on the outcomes of the consultations to the Minister? Has the Minister requested advice from the Department on a “roll-over” of contracts for a shorter period than 4 years? Given that new contracts are due to commence on 1 July 2015, has the Department provided advice to the Minister with options for new contracts? - If not do you have any idea when this advice is likely to be sent? - If so when was this advice sent to the Minister?"

**Answer**

The Government is considering options regarding Job Services Australia contracts from 1 July 2015.

The Government regularly consults with a wide range of stakeholders regarding Job Services Australia contracts when considering the impacts that any changes may have on the community. Ministers as well as the Department meet regularly with employment service providers and other stakeholders to discuss issues relating to the employment services sector.

The Department regularly provides advice to the Minister. Advice is not made public to protect the confidentiality and effectiveness of the advice.