

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EM0770_15

Senator Collins provided in writing.

Question

Building Australia's Future Workforce

The Coalition Government announced as part of the 2014-15 Budget that BAFW – Connection Interviews and Job Seeker Workshops would be ceased, 1 year earlier than planned at a saving of \$4.4 million.

Did the Government consult the Department before deciding to scrap BAFW – Connection Interviews and Job Seeker Workshops one year earlier than planned?

What consultation/analysis did the Department provide to the Government before it decided to scrap the programs?

What data did the Government rely upon in deciding not to proceed with the BAFW programs for the year remaining?

The Government has said that the savings of \$4.4 million would be redirected by the Government to repair the Budget and fund policy priorities:

- Where will the savings be directed to?
- To what policy priorities will the funds go?

How will the Government/Department now evaluate the BAFW program?

Answer

The decision was made as part of the Budget process.