

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Cross Portfolio - Corporate

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000696

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 29

AusTender app contract (Learning Potential app)

Question

Senator O'NEILL: The AusTender app contract. It was an increase in value by \$36,000.

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Senator O'NEILL: I think the revised contract shows the title of the contract was changed, also. It was called 'contract for campaign development and design', then changed simply to 'creative services'.

Ms Gleeson: I will take that on notice.

Senator O'NEILL: If you could, because it seems that there has been a change to many of the contracts in terms of the entitling of them. The parental engagement campaign seems to be have been riddled with these changes. There was a contract for TNS, that was supposed to be 'research consultancy to test and refine parent engagement concepts', but then it just got called 'research services'. The one with Dentsu was called 'media booking for parent engagement campaign', then it was just cut back to 'media services'. The TNS one had their campaign title revised as well to take the words 'parent engagement' out of it. Was that a deliberate decision by the department?

Ms Gleeson: I would have to look into that for you.

Senator O'NEILL: Could you find out why the department changed the names?

Ms Paul: I doubt that it was deliberate. I think it was probably just the nature of the variation. They would have known it was for parental engagement by that stage. But we will take that on notice.

Answer

The change of contract name was not a deliberate decision of government. Contract nomenclature is not standardised in the department, hence, when variations to CN3284025 (BCM Partnership), CN3292306 (TNS Research), CN3292937 (Dentsu Mitchell Australia) occurred there were variations in the title names.